

## **WILD WEST**

### **Asia and Mysia**

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*A man's steps are directed by the LORD. How then can anyone understand his own way?  
(Prov. 20:24)*

***With Asia and Mysia, God directs Paul's steps by blocking his plans...***

*Paul and his companions traveled throughout the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been kept by the Holy Spirit from preaching the word in the province of Asia. When they came to the border of Mysia, they tried to enter Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus would not allow them to.  
(Acts 16:6-7)*

☛ ***Caution: make sure God is the One who is blocking the door*** – “For we wanted to come to you – certainly I, Paul, did, again and again – but Satan stopped us.” (1 Thes. 2:18)

- ***When one door closes, lean into another*** – “So they passed by Mysia and went down to Troas.” (v. 8)
- ***Sometimes God blocks our plan to expand our purpose*** – “During the night Paul had a vision of a man of Macedonia standing and begging him, ‘Come over to Macedonia and help us.’ After Paul had seen the vision, we got ready at once to leave for Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them.” (vv. 9-10)

***Therefore...***

- ***We submit our plans to God for rejection, acceptance, or modification*** – “Now listen, you who say, ‘Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money.’ Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. Instead, you ought to say, ‘If it is the Lord’s will, we will live and do this or that.’” (James 4:13-15)
- ***We bend with God regardless of how we expect it to unfold*** – “On the Sabbath we went outside the city gate to the river, where we expected to find a place of prayer. We sat down and began to speak to the women who had gathered there. One of those listening was a woman named Lydia, a dealer in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira, who was a worshiper of God. The Lord opened her heart to Paul’s message.” (Acts 16:13-14)

*In his heart a man plans his course, but the LORD determines his steps. (Prov. 16:9)*