"TO THE JEW, I BECAME A JEW"
Acts 16:1-5

Introduction:

A. Paul and Barnabas Separated
   1) Barnabas chose Mark and sailed to Cyprus
   2) Paul chose Silas and went through Syria and Cilicia, confirming the churches.

B. Paul then came to Derbe and Lystra
   1) Here he found Timothy, a disciple
   2) He was not circumcised
   3) Paul circumcised him
   4) He had refused to allow the Jews in Jerusalem to circumcise Titus
      Gal. 2:3
   5) Why this contradiction?

I. Timothy, The Son of a Certain Woman
   Vs. 1

A. Timothy was a disciple
   1) We are not sure when he was converted
   2) No "credit" is taken by anyone

B. He was the son of a believer
   1) His Mother and Grandmother
   2) II Timothy 1:5
   3) His father was a Greek

C. He was "well reported" of
   Vs. 2
   1) "well reported" = martuóon = "to have a good witness bourne in favor of",
      "a good testimony"
   2) He had more than local recognition

D. Paul wanted him to accompany him
   1) "would have him go forth with him"
   2) He saw Timothy as a great servant
E. Paul circumcised him
1) "Because of the Jews which were in those quarters"
2) "quarters" = topos = "a place", "a spot", Antioch
3) Vs. 21 Chapter 15:21

II. Why Did Paul Do This? There are 2 reasons

A. Paul did it to gain access. Jew
1) I Cor. 9:19-23
2) "gain" = kerdaino = "to derive profit or advantage" Vs. 19
3) "means" = pantos = "wholly", "altogether", "entirely", "so that in one way or another"

B. To avoid offence Gentile
1) I Cor. 8: 6-13
2) We should be careful to claim "offence"

III. Paul and Timothy and Their Work Vs. 4-5

A. They delivered the decrees Vs. 4
1) "decrees" = dogma = "that which seems true to one", "an opinion", "an authoritative opinion"
2) "ordained" = krino = "to divide", "to separate", "make a distinction", "come to a decision"

B. God blessed their work Vs. 5
1) churches were established in the faith
2) "established" = stereo = "to make stable", "strong", "to strengthen"
3) churches increased in number
4) "increased" = perisseuo = "abound more and more", "to be over and above the number"