"NO EASY ROAD"

ACTS 14 (key verse - v. 22)

INTRODUCTION: V. 21-22



*The pathway to God's kingdom is often paved with thorns (It is no easy road).

<u>3 Tribulations (pressures)</u> you may face if you take a stand for the Gospel:

Along the pathway some may:

- I. <u>MISREPRESENT</u> YOU, BECAUSE OF THE GOSPEL YOU STAND FOR (v. 1-7) (Are you willing to endure the pain of <u>verbal</u> affliction?)
 - A. Because of the Gospel you may be <u>talked about</u> (v. 1-3)
 - B. Because of the Gospel you may be <u>a cause of division</u> (v. 4-7)

Along the pathway some may:

II.

MISUNDERSTAND YOU, BECAUSE OF THE GOSPEL YOU STAND FOR (v. 8-19a)

(Are you willing to endure the pain of <u>emotional</u> affliction?)

- A. On the one hand, some may think of you as <u>a god to be worshipped</u> (v. 11-18)
- B. On the other hand, these same people may think of you as <u>a criminal to be</u> <u>punished</u> (v. 19a)

Along the pathway some may:

 III. <u>MISTREAT</u> YOU, BECAUSE OF THE GOSPEL YOU STAND FOR (v. 19a-20) (Are you willing to endure the pain of <u>physical</u> affliction?)