

The Acts of the Apostles

Part II: Paul and His Companions Witness in Asia Minor and Europe (Acts 13:1-21:16)

Session 1: Paul's First Missionary Journey - Part 1 (Chapter 13)

Videos of this Bible Study may be found on YouTube under "Joseph Polzin"
or through this link: <https://bit.ly/2WWBV1t>

- I. Antioch in Syria was a very important city in the Roman Empire commercially, politically, and militarily. Remember it was also an important city for the early Christian Church (cf. 11:26). What had taken place there previously in 11:20-21?
- II. Who was set apart for a new work (13:2)? Who did the setting apart?
- III. Where did Saul/Paul, Barnabas, and John Mark go first when they arrived in a new place? (13:5) This sets up a pattern they would follow in their missionary journeys.
- IV. Who summoned Barnabas and Saul/Paul? (13:7) Why is that significant?
 - a. Who was with the proconsul? (13:6) What did he try to do? (13:8) Why do you think he desired to do that?
 - b. How did Saul/Paul respond? (13:10-11) What happened to Elymas (Bar-Jesus)?
 - i. Who else was blinded previously in the Book of Acts? What does this blindness signify? To what is it meant to lead?
 - c. *When* did the proconsul believe and *why* did the proconsul believe? (13:12)
- V. Where did they arrive in 13:14? Note this is different than the Antioch in Syria.
- VI. Paul was welcomed to speak in the synagogue. To whom does he address his message in v. 16?

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- a. What is his main point of vv. 17-25? (To whom is the story building?)
 - b. Who has been sent “the message of this salvation” in v. 26?
 - c. What is the proof that Jesus is the fulfillment of God’s promises? (13:30, 32-33)
 - d. *Note: Paul's use of Psalm 16:10 and other OT passages is reminiscent of Peter's in Acts 2.*
 - e. What’s the summary of Paul’s message in vv. 38-39?
 - f. The word (2x) in Greek in v. 38 is “justified.” Read Galatians 2:16. Why is this so significant to Paul’s message?
- VII. What was requested of Paul and Barnabas in v. 42 and v. 43?
- VIII. Who gathered the next week (13:44)? What was the general reaction by the Jews? (13:45) Why might they feel this way? (cf. 13:39)
- a. What did Paul and Barnabas make clear to them in vv. 46-47? How does this relate to what Paul warned against in vv. 40-41?
- IX. What are the differences between reactions between the Gentiles and Jews in vv. 48-50?
- a. What does it mean to be “appointed to eternal life” in v. 48?