

## Missionaries Sent

### Acts 13

- Acts in 2 sections: Ch. 1-12 “The Beginning of the Church” & Ch. 13-28 “The Growth of the Church”
- Watershed in book: before Peter is key figure, Jerusalem is key city, key recipients are Jews. After it is Paul, Antioch in Syria, and Gentiles.
- Ultimate fulfillment of 1:8
- “By studying these missionary trips, Christians today can regain the excitement of taking the Gospel to a lost and dying world.” Roper
- 1<sup>st</sup> Journey – C. 46-48 AD

#### **1. Selection – v. 1-3**

- 1: Antioch of 11:19-30; prophets & teachers spoke by insp. (1 Cor. 12:28-29).
- Barnabas: son of encouragement
- Simeon: prob. from Cyrene
- Niger (long i): Latin from Black, Cyrene in Africa, darker skin.
- Lucius of Cyrene: may have est’d congregation
- Manean: may have been part of Herod Antipas’ court, or ref. for Luke
- Saul: last, protégé
- 2: 1<sup>st</sup> mention of fasting in Ac.; church may have been assembled as HS spoke
- Jesus sent Limited Commission by 2s (Mt. 10)
- 3: not conferring gift (already had); confirming action of HS – not in a rush!

#### **2. From Antioch – v. 4-13**

- 4: result of God’s direction; incl. John Mark (JM); 15-16mi to Selucia
- Cyprus: 140mi long, 60mi wide; copper mines, ship building, B’s hometown; “The Happy Isle”
- 5: Salamis: metropolis part on E end of Cyprus; JM: helper/assistant (McCord)
- 6: preached 90+mi; Paphos: W end port, capitol; sorcerer: practicing magic, Simon (8)
- 7: spotlight not on conversion but confrontation; wanted to hear preaching
- 8: Elymas knew his position in trouble if Sergius Paulus converts; Satan couldn’t discourage P&B so he tried defamation

- 9: 1<sup>st</sup> Paul – Rm. Name, many people had 2 names; under HS control
- 10: deceit: “to trap with bait;” Bar-jesus (son of Jesus) now called son of the devil; among strongest NT words
- 11: only apostle miracle for someone’s detriment; mist: GK eye disease, only time used – not a permanent blindness
- 12: miracle left great impact; might’ve become a Chr., cf. 16:33-34, 18:8, 1 Cor. 1:14
- 13: P usually will now come 1<sup>st</sup>
- N sailing 150mi, port of Attalia, 7mi to Perga (cap. Of Pamphilia)
- Not known why JM left: homesick, found work hard

### **3. To Antioch in Pisidia – v. 14-52**

- 2 point sermon: Review History (14-25) & Messiah has Come (26-41)
- 14: didn’t quit after JM left
- Pisidian Antioch: chief city of Rm. Province of Galatia, elev. 3500ft, hazardous trek there.
- After reading of Law, an explanation could be given by reader, leader, or male present.
- 15: exhortation = encouragement in 4:36; 1<sup>st</sup> recorded sermon by P
- 16: JC sat (Lk. 4:20-21) but P stood
- 17,18: uplifted arm: anthropomorphism for “with great power”
- 19: 450yrs: 400 in Egypt, 40 wilderness wandering, 10 in Canaan conquest – not period of Judges
- 20,21: similar to Stephen (7), both reviewed OT history; 40yr reign not found in OT
- 22: exact qt not in OT, gist of 1 Sam. 13:14 & Ps. 89:20
- 23: listeners enjoy up to here; 2 surprises: 1) past tense of “has brought” (fulfillment) 2) the One names as David’s offspring
- 24: John paved way; preaching > repentance
- 25: using John’s words as proof
- 26: God included all in His overall purpose
- 27-30: P had hurdles to overcome; far from Jerusalem, uses 3<sup>rd</sup> person ‘they;’ execution didn’t disqualify Jesus as Messiah: 1. death fulfilled Scriptures 2. Jesus didn’t deserve to die
- 31: proof: rose from the dead
- 32-33: preach the good news: GK evangelize (gospel), Ps. 2:7 begotten as a new king

- 34: cf. Isa. 55:3; resurrection necessary
- 35-37: same conclusion as Peter (2); Ps. 16:10; David couldn't be ref. to himself
- 38-39: spiritual freedom only in Him
- 40: good news could be bad if they didn't take advantage of it!
- 41: LXX; Hab. 1:5: God sent a heathen nation, Babylon, to punish His people; Israelites didn't believe this was possible and were punished!
- 42: initial reaction all could be desired; most don't beg for same sermon again
- 43: invited to speak again
- 44: busy preaching all week; whole city ready to accept or reject Gospel
- 45: division starts immediately; Jews had been evangelistic (Mt. 23:15), but never got whole city; blaspheming name of Jesus
- 46: couldn't complete sermon; push aside – repudiate
- 47: applied to Jesus in Lk. 2:29-32; in qt (Is. 49:6) God speaking to Jewish nation
- 48: receptive Gentiles
- 49: work bearing fruit
- 50: Jews tried to silence missionaries
- 51: familiar ceremony for Jews (Mt. 10:14, Mk. 6:11, Lk. 9:15); God rejected them for rejecting His message
- 52: new Chr. were undeterred by actions of Jews

### **Lessons:**

1. We must place high importance on taking the Gospel to all parts of the earth. Mark 16:15.
2. No opposition to the cause of Christ will be successful – and God can always use any situation for good!
3. Not every sermon is well received by the audience; however, when the truth is preached to honest and sincere hearts, souls are always saved.

© 2024 Justin D. Reed  
 Post Office Box 292 · Woodbury TN 37190  
 justinreedbible.com · justinreedbible@gmail.com

September 15, 2024 AM Arlington church of Christ