

THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

III THE ACTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH Acts 13-28

LESSON 12 ~ The First Missionary Journey ~ Acts 13

KEY VERSE

As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, 'Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.' (Acts 13:2)

PONDER¹

READ Acts Chapter 13.

WRITE the *word, phrase, or verse* that spoke to you the most. Explain. _____

THE HOLY SPIRIT SETS APART BARNABAS AND SAUL

READ Acts 13:1-3.

1. LIST the prophets and teachers in the church of Antioch (v. 1). _____

2. When these men of God were ministering to the Lord and fasting, how did the Holy Spirit respond (v. 2, 3)?

What did they do before they sent out Barnabas and Paul? _____

¹ PONDER: think about and consider carefully God's spiritual truths as revealed in the Word of God.

LOOK DEEPER

What do you learn about prayer and/or fasting from these verses?

Isaiah 38:3-9a _____

Zechariah 7:5, 6 _____

Matthew 4:1-11 _____

Matthew 6:16-18 _____

Matthew 9:14, 15 _____

Matthew 17:18-21 _____

PREACHING OPPOSED IN CYPRUS

READ Acts 13:4-12.

1. Where did the Holy Spirit first lead Saul and Barnabas (v. 4, 5a)? _____^{2 3 4}

2. Who was with Saul and Barnabas (v. 5b)? _____⁶

² sent: dispatch; send away.

³ Seleucia: a seaport near Antioch and Syria; an important strategic Roman location because of the trade route of the Mediterranean Sea.

⁴ Cyprus: a large island in the northeastern corner of the Mediterranean Sea.

⁵ Salamis: a city on the island of Cyprus.

⁶ John: John Mark, son of Mary, author of the Gospel of Mark (see Acts 12:12, 25, 13:5; 13:13, 15:33-38).

3. DESCRIBE the two men Barnabas and Saul found on the island of Cyprus in the city of Paphos (vv. 6, 7).

Why did Sergius Paulus⁷ call for Barnabas and Saul? _____

4. What did Elymas the sorcerer⁸ seek to do (v. 8)? _____

5. Saul now begins to refer to himself as Paul.⁹ How did he withstand Elymas the sorcerer (vv. 9-11)?

How did God judge him? _____

LOOK DEEPER

Whenever the Holy Spirit is leading a person to have faith in Christ, Satan comes against him to discourage, hinder, and destroy the work of the Holy Spirit in his life. How do the following Scriptures help you?

Luke 22:31, 32 _____

John 10:10 _____

Ephesians 6:10-18 _____

I Peter 5:8, 9 _____

⁷ Sergius Paulus: the first Gentile ruler written about to believe the Gospel.

⁸ sorcerer - Greek *megos*: wise men or magi.

⁹ Paul: Greek, small or little; may have taken the name of Sergius Paulus who was his first convert. Saul is the Hebrew name for Paul.

PERSONAL

What ways has Satan used to try to come against you and discourage you? How have you protected yourself in the Lord?

7. What caused the proconsul to believe in Christ (Acts 13:12)? _____

PREACHING AT ANTIOCH IN PISIDIA

READ Acts 13:13-41.

1. What took place with Paul's party in Perga and in Pamphylia (v. 13)? _____

2. Upon arriving at Antioch in Pisidia, what opportunity was given to Paul (vv. 14, 15)? _____

3. How did Paul address the people (v. 16)? _____

4. Paul gives an overview of the history of Israel while they were strangers in Egypt. What did God do for the people of Israel (v. 17)?

5. How long did He tolerate their ways in the wilderness (v. 18)? _____

6. When they came into the promised land of Canaan, what did God do for them (v. 19)? _____

7. God appointed judges to rule them for 450 years. During the days of Samuel the prophet, the people asked for a king. Who did God give them (vv. 20, 21)?

8. God then raised up David as king. What testimony did He give of him (v. 22)? _____

9. Who did God raise up for Israel through the seed of David (v. 23)? _____

10. After John¹⁰ preached the baptism of repentance,¹¹ what did he boldly declare about himself and Jesus at the end of his discourse (vv. 24, 25)?

11. To whom was the Word of salvation sent (v. 26)? _____

12. What was Paul's message to the people:

concerning the crucifixion and the burial of Christ (vv. 27-29)? _____

concerning the resurrection of Christ (vv. 30-37)? _____

concerning Christ as Savior (vv. 38, 39)? _____

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concerning the warning of the prophets¹³ (vv. 40, 41) _____

¹⁰ John: John the Baptist; the forerunner of Christ who baptized Him and gave witness of Him, introducing Him as the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world (see John 1:6-8, 15-35).

¹¹ baptism of repentance: John baptized people only as they were *confessing their sins*: he required genuine repentance as a condition to be baptized (see Mark 1:4, 5).

¹² justified: Greek word that means to render just or innocent; declared not guilty.

¹³ prophets: refers to Habakkuk 1:5 and Isaiah 29:9, 14.

PAUL AND BARNABAS TURN TO THE GENTILES

READ Acts 13:42-52.

1. What was the reaction of the two groups of people to Paul's message (vv. 42, 43)?

The Gentiles: _____

The Jews and proselytes¹⁴ : _____

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2. What did Paul and Barnabas experience the following Sabbath (v. 44)? _____

3. How did the Jews respond when they saw the enthusiasm of the multitudes (v. 45)? _____

4. What did Paul and Barnabas boldly tell the Jews (vv. 46, 47)? _____

What Old Testament Scripture¹⁶ did they quote concerning Christ? _____

5. How did the Gentiles respond to what they heard (vv. 48, 49)? _____

6. Who did the Jews begin to stir up and for what purpose (v. 50)? _____

¹⁴ proselytes - Greek *proselytos* : one who has come from a foreign region; convert, New Testament Gentile that converted to Judaism.

¹⁵ the grace of God: the unmerited favor of God extended to the Gentiles; salvation through Christ.

¹⁶ Old Testament Scripture: Isaiah 49:6.

7. How did Paul, Barnabas, and the disciples respond to the Jews persecution (vv. 51, 52)? _____

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PERSONAL

Has there been a time that you, filled with the Holy Spirit, shared the Gospel with someone? Explain.

What was the outcome? _____

WRITE a prayer of gratitude for the Holy Spirit's working in your life and the realization of the cost to the Lord Jesus.

WRITE out the KEY VERSE. _____

*And they continued steadfastly
in the Apostles Doctrine and fellowship,
in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.
Acts 2:42*

¹⁷ Iconium: capital of the province of Lycaonia in Asia Minor; modern day Konia.

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