

Acts 13-15:

The 1<sup>st</sup> Missionary Journey and  
the Jerusalem Council

**ACTS SERIES - WEEK #6**

**1MOSAIC CHURCH**

**JUNE 4, 2023**

## Acts Week #6: Acts 13-15

**NIV Acts 11:25-30** <sup>25</sup> Then Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul, <sup>26</sup> and when he found him, **he brought him to Antioch**. So for a whole year Barnabas and Saul met with the church and taught great numbers of people. The disciples were called Christians first at Antioch. <sup>27</sup> During this time some prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch. <sup>28</sup> One of them, named Agabus, stood up and through the Spirit predicted that a severe famine would spread over the entire Roman world. (This happened during the reign of Claudius.) <sup>29</sup> The disciples, as each one was able, decided to provide help for the brothers and sisters living in Judea. <sup>30</sup> **This they did, sending their gift to the elders [in Jerusalem] by Barnabas and Saul.**

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<sup>NIV</sup> **Acts 12:24-13:4** <sup>24</sup> But [in spite of the opposition] the word of God continued to spread and flourish. <sup>25</sup> **When Barnabas and Saul had finished their mission, they returned from Jerusalem**, taking with them John, also called Mark. <sup>13:1</sup> Now in the church at Antioch there were prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen (who had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch) and Saul. <sup>2</sup> While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, **the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them."** <sup>3</sup> So after they had fasted and prayed, they placed their **alled** hands on them and sent them off. <sup>4</sup> The two of them, **sent on their way by the Holy Spirit**, went down to Seleucia and sailed from there



**PAUL'S FIRST MISSIONARY JOURNEY**

Acts 13 & 14

- City
- One of the "Seven Churches" - Rev. 2-3
- Paul's Route
- ConformingToJesus.com

# Acts 13-15 Outline: The 1<sup>st</sup> Missionary Journey and Jerusalem Council

- ◎ **Chapter 13 – The Church at Antioch**
  - The Calling of Paul and Barnabas (13:1-4)
  - Cyprus (13:5-12)
  - Pisidian Antioch (13:13-52)
- ◎ **Chapter 14 – Signs, Salvations, and Stonings**
  - Iconium (14:1-5)
  - Lystra and Derbe (14:6-20)
  - Follow up Ministry and Return to Antioch (14:21-28)
- ◎ **Chapter 15 – The Jerusalem Council (15:1-15:35)**
  - The Dispute in Antioch (15:1-5)
  - The Discussion about Law and Grace (15:6-21)
  - The Decision – A Letter to the Gentiles (15:22-35)

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*NIV* **Acts 13:44-52** On the next Sabbath almost the whole city gathered to hear the word of the Lord. <sup>45</sup> When the Jews saw the crowds, they were filled with jealousy. They began to contradict what Paul was saying and heaped abuse on him. <sup>46</sup> Then Paul and Barnabas answered them boldly: "We had to speak the **Word of God** to you first. Since you reject it and do not consider yourselves worthy of eternal life, we now turn to the Gentiles. <sup>47</sup> For this is what the Lord has commanded us: "I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth." {Isaiah 49:6} <sup>48</sup> When the Gentiles heard this, they were glad and honored the **Word of the Lord**; and all who were appointed for eternal life believed. <sup>49</sup> The **Word of the Lord** spread through the whole region. <sup>50</sup> But the Jews...stirred up persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and expelled them from their region. <sup>51</sup> So **they shook the dust from their feet** as a warning to them and went to Iconium. <sup>52</sup> **And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.**

## Chapter 13 Take Away's

1. Unfortunately, there are Jealous people in the World and you may be misunderstood and falsely accused – v.45
2. They Persevered / Spoke the Word of God Boldly in the face of Jealous Opposition – v.46
3. They had Memorized Scripture and Leaned on it – v.47
  - Go **through** opposition with another trusted Christian
4. God's Election: Some believed and Rejoiced (some did not) but ultimately God is in Control and will be Glorified – v.48
5. There are still hungry people in the World and God's Word will spread when preached – v. 49
6. There is a difference between Boldness and Stupidity – v.51
  - They did not give up, rather they just went to a different town.
7. We can be filled with Joy and the Holy Spirit when fulfilling what God has called us to do. – v. 52

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<sup>HCSB</sup> **Acts 14:1-2a** *The same thing happened in Iconium; Paul and Barnabas entered into the Jewish synagogue. There they spoke in such a way that a great number of both Jews and Gentiles believed. <sup>2</sup> But the Jews refused...*

<sup>NIV</sup> **Acts 14:19-28** <sup>19</sup> *Then some Jews came from Antioch and Iconium and won the crowd over. They stoned Paul and dragged him outside the city, thinking he was dead. <sup>20</sup> But after the disciples had gathered around him, he got up and went back into the city. The next day he and Barnabas left for Derbe. <sup>21</sup> They preached the gospel in that city and won a large number of disciples. Then they returned to Lystra, Iconium and Antioch, <sup>22</sup> strengthening the disciples and encouraging them to remain true to the faith. **"We must go through many hardships to enter the kingdom of God," they said.** <sup>23</sup> Paul and Barnabas appointed elders for them in each church and, with prayer and fasting, committed them to the Lord, in whom they had put their trust....<sup>26</sup> they sailed back to Antioch, where they had been **committed to the grace of God for the work they had now completed.** <sup>27</sup> On arriving there, they gathered the church together and reported all that God had done through them and how he had opened the door of faith to the Gentiles. <sup>28</sup> **And they stayed there a long time with the disciples.***



## Chapter 14 / 1<sup>st</sup> Missionary Journey Take Away's

1. **They Preached the Gospel – v.21**
2. **They Persevered in the Face of Hardship – v.22**
3. **They Appointed Elders in Every Church – v.23**
4. **They Believed in the Power of Prayer and Fasting – v.23**
5. **They Experienced the Grace of God – vv. 3, 26**
6. **They were Faithful to Complete the Mission; Finishing what God began – v.27**
7. **They Recapped, Rested, and Recovered from the Journey – vv.27-28**

## Acts Week #6: Acts 13-15

<sup>NIV</sup> **Acts 15:1-11** Certain people came down from Judea to Antioch and were teaching the believers: **"Unless you are circumcised, according to the custom taught by Moses, you cannot be saved."** <sup>2</sup> This brought Paul and Barnabas into sharp dispute and debate with them. So Paul and Barnabas were appointed, along with some other believers, to go up to Jerusalem to see the apostles and elders about this question. <sup>3</sup> The church sent them on their way and.... <sup>4</sup> When they came to Jerusalem, they were welcomed by the church and the apostles and elders, to whom they reported everything God had done through them. <sup>5</sup> Then some of the believers who belonged to the party of the Pharisees stood up and said, **"The Gentiles must be circumcised and required to keep the law of Moses."** <sup>6</sup> The apostles and elders met to consider this question. <sup>7</sup> After much discussion, Peter got up and addressed them: "Brothers...<sup>10</sup> Why do you try to test God by putting on the necks of Gentiles a yoke that neither we nor our ancestors have been able to bear? <sup>11</sup> **No! We believe it is through the grace of our Lord Jesus that we [Jews] are saved, just as they [Gentiles] are."**

## Acts Week #6: Acts 13-15

<sup>NIV</sup> **Acts 15:22-31** Then the apostles and elders, with the whole church, decided to choose some of their own men and send them to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas. They chose Judas and Silas, two men who were leaders among the believers. <sup>23</sup> With them they sent the following letter: The apostles and elders, your brothers, **To the Gentile believers in Antioch, Syria and Cilicia: Greetings.** <sup>24</sup> We have heard that some went out from us without our authorization and disturbed you, troubling your minds by what they said. <sup>25</sup> So we **all agreed** to choose some men and send them to you with our dear friends Barnabas and Paul – <sup>26</sup> men who have risked their lives for the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>27</sup> Therefore we are sending Judas and Silas to confirm by word of mouth what we are writing. <sup>28</sup> **It seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us** not to burden you with anything beyond the following requirements: <sup>29</sup> You are to <sup>1</sup> abstain from food sacrificed to idols, <sup>2</sup> from blood, <sup>3</sup> from the meat of strangled animals and <sup>4</sup> from sexual immorality. You will do well to avoid these things. **Farewell.** <sup>30</sup> So the men were sent off and went down to Antioch, where they gathered the church together and delivered the letter. <sup>31</sup> The people read it and **were glad** for its encouraging

## **Chapter 15 / Jerusalem Council Take Away's**

- 1. They Listened – v.6**
- 2. They Discussed – v. 7 (Much Discussion)**
- 3. They Consulted Scripture – vv.16-17**
- 4. They Sought the Leading, the Peace, the Assurance, and the Unity of the Holy Spirit – v.28**
- 5. They all Agreed – vv. 22, 25 (“unanimously” in some versions)**
- 6. They made a Decision – vv. 11, 15, 19-20, 25, 28**
- 7. They executed their Decision Wisely and Communicated it Clearly – vv. 22-29**
- 8. Their Conflict Resolution Process and Final Decision brought Encouragement to Others – v.31**

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