Proofs of Promise Fulfilled, Part 2—Acts 13:34-37—11/15/26
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Open your Bibles to Acts 13 as we continue through Paul's sermon in the synagogue in Pisidian Antioch on his 1st missionary journey.

> Let's read this sermon again where Paul was proving that Jesus is the Savior—let's read Acts 13:16-41. [READ]

Last week my original plan was to dig into Paul's 3 OT quotes in Acts 13:32-37 that further prove Jesus was the promised hope of all history.

> But the 1st quote is from Psalm 2, which was timely to explain.

So basically, last week's message was point 1 of 3 that I had planned.

> Recall that Paul was speaking about this promise—this promise that we know started in the Garden after the Fall into sin.

We call it the **promise of the Seed**—for you kids, Kevin DeYoung's children's book calls it the promise of the **Snake-Crusher**, right?

> The **Conqueror & Deliverer** who would crush sin & Satan.

You know that promise—but think of the **logic** of it—what would it take to crush sin & Satan when Adam & Eve had just **lost to them**?

> This hope would **have to be** more powerful than Adam, **right**?

Since Adam & Eve **failed**, the Promised Savior **had to be greater**.

> That promise of a Savior is the biblical storyline in verse 23.

That Savior was **expected to be so great** that He was God's **Anointed One**, meaning the One God **consecrated specially to Himself**.

> That's the word for **Christ** or **Messiah** that **Psalm 2:2** says that the international, multi-level rebellion was against.

Psalm 2:4 called that Christ was God's consecrated **King** & Psalm 2:7 called Him **God's Son** by the eternal decree.

> And Paul's point in verse 33 was that God had proven Jesus to be **that one**—to be that Christ & King & Savior & Son of God.

Remember—***Christ is not Jesus' last name***—it's His **title** as the **OT focus for hope & salvation**.

> And as Paul preached to Jews far away from Jerusalem, they needed **OT Scriptural proof** that Jesus was the Christ.

And listen—**you need biblical proof today too**—you live in a time when everyone questions everything.

> You live in a time when **uncertainty abounds** & lusts control people & they lack any lasting purpose or transcendence.

You live in a time when **deceit & fraud** abound & history has been **twisted** & reinterpreted & we need to be anchored in unchanging truth.

> We need to understand & explain the **flow of human history** in the **themes of sin & judgment & hope & salvation**.

And we can do so by **connecting the dots** of God's plan throughout the OT to the coming of Jesus as further explained in the NT.

> That's one reason the sermons in Acts are so timely for us.

After proclaiming Jesus' resurrection, Paul pointed to **OT passages** in verses 33-37 that Jesus fulfilled in His death & resurrection.

> And the **first** of those was **Psalm 2** where the **Christ & King** was expected to be eternally **God's Son**.

And since Jesus' resurrection body was **not merely resuscitated**, it proved Jesus to be **that Son of God** who had victory over sin & death.

Jesus was **announced** as God's Son at **His birth & baptism** & transfiguration, but He was **proven to be so** at His resurrection.

The resurrection is the **capstone proof** that Jesus **fulfilled** the promise.

And that **review** of **verse 33** gives us a **1st** of **3 proofs that Jesus is the promised Savior** & expected hope of all history.

Paul's reference to Psalm 2 in verse 33 highlights how, **point #1**, **the resurrection proved Jesus is God's Son who secured eternal rule**.

From verse 33, let's simply say **1st** that **the resurrection proved Jesus is God's SON who secured eternal RULE**.

But **that's not all** the resurrection proved.

Psalm 2 recounts how God's King & Christ **will rule & judge** & **therefore people should worship Him**.

That final section of Psalm 2 says to **pay homage to the Son** of God, **take refuge in Him** to find blessing & not wrath.

So Jesus was **more than** the Sovereign King & Coming Judge.

Jesus was **also a source of hope & refuge**.

And that's why Paul quoted Isaiah 55 next in verse 34 so read that as we resume our study. [READ]

Paul returned to the fact of **God raising up Jesus from the dead** & added a phrase he would connect next with Psalm 16.

But first he mentioned how **God had spoken** in the past with **anchored assurance for the present** in Isaiah 55.

He quoted how God said **He will give**—that's a **certain future promise** that still had application to **listeners then & now**.

That was **sure & secure** because **David's Son rose** & lived.

Those **blessings did not die** when David died.

God would still give the **holy** & faithful things of David.

That was a reference to **all that was set apart & surely trustworthy** in God's steadfast love in His covenant with David.

Those are the holy & sure blessings of the **eternal kingdom** promised to **David's Son** who would be the **eternal King**.

Remember that from 2nd Samuel 7 that we've referenced repeatedly.

Eternal hope was in **the Son** of David, **not in David himself**.

In 2nd Samuel 7:13-16, God said "*I will establish the throne of **his** kingdom **forever**. … Your house and **your kingdom shall endure before Me forever**; your throne shall be **established forever**.*"

All who trust & follow Yahweh God looked forward to that **kingdom with David's Son** as the Conqueror of sin & Satan.

So Paul's point was to say **Jesus' resurrection proved that Jesus is THAT Son of David** in whom all those blessings will be fulfilled.

Jesus' resurrection proved that He is **David's Son** & therefore He is **the Savior of sinners**.

Let's note that as a 2nd proof of the fulfilled promise of a Savior, the 2nd proof that Jesus is that promised Savior.

Point #2—the resurrection proved Jesus is DAVID'S Son who secured eternal blessings & so He is the Sinner's Savior.

The resurrection proved Jesus is **(#1) God's Son** who secured eternal **rule** & **(#2) DAVID'S Son who secured eternal BLESSINGS**.

Think of such **historically rooted, transcendent fulfillments** in Jesus that can **expand your trust & worship** of Him.

The **story of all time** is **all about Him**—we worship Jesus the Christ.

As **Christmas** approaches & you read the **birth narratives** of Jesus' arrival, pay attention to **how often David is mentioned**.

Pay attention to what was expected & **how Jesus fulfilled it**.

See the glory of Jesus as the **theme of all history**.

And **when you talk to people** about Jesus, **talk of Him in this way** as **connected to King David** as the hope of all history

Speak of Jesus as **more than** the source of American Exceptionalism or Western Civilization or the Reformation.

Speak of Jesus as **more than** the focus of Christmas or as **merely** the One whose life was perfect & who resurrection was victorious.

Yes, say all those things—but say **more**—say Jesus is the **sinner's Savior because** He is **David's Son** in all that means.

Paul was recalling that by quoting **Isaiah 55** & so turn there to see it.

One of the most beautiful & compelling invitations for sinners to find mercy from God is in **God's own words** in Isaiah 55.

If you are trying to help Jews who know the OT to recall how God's blessings are **freely available** in **David's Son**, you read **Isaiah 55**.

If you want to give **excitement** as you build **proof** that Jesus is the promised Savior, you mention the **invitation of Isaiah 55**.

Paul quoted **Isaiah 55:3**, but let's read **verses 1-5** to see why. [READ]

Soak in this **happy & compelling call** to **come to this God**.

Do you **thirst for satisfaction** in this life & **hope for the future**?

Do you **feel empty & helpless** to create or **buy** lasting **joy**?

You know you do—we all know that we are **not always** satisfied & all of us **sometimes question** the purpose of our trials in life.

We may **buy stuff to feel better**—that's shopping as a hobby.

But as we sense the **need in our souls** & we see the **invitation** of Isaiah 55, **let's be drawn into the beauty** of what's promised.

You can enjoy the faithful mercies of God's covenant to David.

Because Jesus rose & proved He is David's Son, **we can respond** to the invitation of Isaiah 55.

And that's **not merely for Israel**, but also for **other nations**.

So come to God now & don't delay as we read in verses 6-13. [READ]

Come to Yahweh by **repenting**—by turning from your sins—by **forsaking your wicked ways & unrighteous thoughts**.

As you turn to Him in faith, **He will take pity on you** & greet you with **love & mercy**—that's what verse 7 says.

And **literally**, He will **make great to forgive**.

God will do so because His **ways** are **higher** & His **Word** is **powerful**.

And the results He brings will **transform the earth with joy** & **peace** & **everlasting praise** to His name.

That's a bit of what comes as He **fulfills** His promises to **David's Son**.

Now turn to Acts 13 as we **revel** in Paul using this happy **logic**.

Do you see why Paul quoted such a **joyful appeal** in Pisidian Antioch?

Isaiah 55 sets up for the **offer of forgiveness** through Jesus that Paul gave in **verse 38** that we'll get to **next week**.

Full forgiveness of sins—**abundant pardon** as Isaiah **55:7** said.

The resurrection proved Jesus is **(#1) God's Son** who secured eternal rule & **(#2) David's Son** who secured eternal blessings.

Eternal blessings are sure because the **eternal king has come** & proven His **eternal life** in the resurrection.

So let's note **3rdly** now how **the resurrection proved Jesus is the Holy One who secured eternal life**.

The **3rd OT proof** that Jesus is the Promised Savior, that the promise is fulfilled in Jesus, comes from **Psalm 16:10**.

Proof #3—the resurrection proved Jesus is the Holy One who secured eternal life—He is the Source of life.

Paul had already mentioned how Jesus was **no longer going to return into corruption of His body** because God raised Him from the dead.

So like Peter did in Acts 2, Paul pointed to Acts 16:10 for proof that **resurrection was expected**—read **Acts 13:35**. [READ]

Notice the **divine inspiration of Scripture** revealed here.

Verse 34 said **God had spoken in this way** from Isaiah 55 & then **God also says** in His living words quoted in verse 35.

What's quoted is from another psalm & is connected to what's quoted in verse 34 by the word "***therefore***" or "***because.***"

The **holy & sure blessings of David** are secured "***because***" the **resurrection was expected** based on David's words in **Psalm 16:10**.

Jesus is David's Son & the Holy One **because** David **expected** his ultimate Son & Holy One to **never see decay**.

David was **speaking to God** in Psalm 16:10 & he said God had assured him freedom from corruption.

In contrast to what God **WILL give** in verse 34, Paul quoted in verse 35 what God will **NOT give** in His words through David.

That word translated **allow** is the same word for **give** as in verse 34.

God **will NOT give** His Holy One to **see corruption** or decay.

But the Holy One **will give** the **holy & sure blessings** because He will **overcome death & sin**.

That's **Paul's logic** in **verse 35** & then **read** verses **36-37** to follow how he made it obvious. [READ]

Verse 36 starts with the word '***for***' because it's an **explanation** of how David obviously could **not have fulfilled** what he wrote in Psalm 16.

After David had **rendered service to the will or plan of God** for his own generation, **he fell asleep**, meaning he died.

David's life was significant & meaningful, **but he died** & he was ***gathered to his fathers***, which is the OT phrase for burial.

Then using the **same word** for ***decay or corruption*** as in verses 34 & 35, Paul noted that David **did see** corruption.

David's body **was put in a grave & underwent decay**.

So David **could not be** the Holy One in Psalm 16.

The Promised Messiah & Son of David **had to be greater than David** by overcoming the bodily corruption & decay of burial.

A resurrection body was required to be the promised Holy One.

And in contrast to David, verse 37 says, ***He whom God raised***—again pointing to Jesus—**He did not see corruption**, did not undergo decay.

So **Jesus fulfilled the expectation of Psalm 16:10**.

So turn to Psalm 16 to see this quote of the OT expectation of the resurrection of the Promised Savior, called the Holy One.

Read verses 8-11 to get the context—Psalm 16:8-11. [READ]

David said that he could live in **eternal hope** while still in his body.

He could dwell securely because God gave him promises that applied to this life & **also beyond this life**. [Psalm 17:15]

Job had faith in that kind of promise in the earliest OT book written.

In **Job 19:25-26**, Job said "*As for me, I know that my Redeemer lives, And at the last He will take His stand on the earth.* ***Even after my skin is destroyed, Yet from my flesh I shall see God***."

So Job **trusted God as his Redeemer** to stand for him & **resurrect his body** so that he would **see God after his skin was destroyed**.

Please hear that—OT believers were **not unsophisticated cavemen** whose faith was limited to **earthly cravings**.

They were **not** people who only cared about how well their **crops** did each year or whether they would survive **invasions** by foreign armies.

Ecclesiastes 3 says eternity is hard-wired into everyone so the **longing for life with God** after this earthly life **always existed**.

All people of all times in history are like **you & me**.—we **know** we have an immaterial part of us & we know **something** is after death.

The **question** is **what we do** with that inherent awareness.

Do you try to **forget it** or **ignore it** or say you will think about it later?

Or do you **want to seek that God** who made us & **know Him** in a way that you can **trust Him & talk to Him** personally?

Note in verse 10 in Psalm 16 how David began to **speak TO God** in the **2nd Person** & **not** just speak **OF God** in the **3rd Person**.

David told God that his **secure hope** rested on God's promises **not to abandon his soul** to Hades or Sheol, the realm of the dead, **not to be left there without the presence of God**.

Do you know God's promises so well that you speak to Him like that?

Do you have assurance that God will never abandon you?

Get what David had—David expected God to **give him eternal life** beyond death & that's why verse 11 mentioned **the path of life**.

That was the path to **eternal life**, life **beyond death**, because verse 11 then mentioned **fullness of joy** in **God's presence**.

We want that path as Psalm 16:11 ends with "***pleasures forever***."

We see David clearly spoke of **forever**, of a hope that lasted **beyond the grave**, **forever** beyond death or Sheol or Hades.

That makes sense when we think of the kingdom of David's Son being **forever** as God promised in **2nd Samuel 7** in the Davidic Covenant.

Think of it—**how do you rule forever** as a mortal who dies?

You must **either** ***not die*** or you must ***rise from the dead*** if you **do** die.

Don't miss that—you **have to be alive to be king forever**.

Do you follow that logic?—do you see how David would have reasoned from a king reigning forever to a future resurrection?

So the Promised Savior of David's line **had to rise again**.

And as David transitioned from merely talking about **his own experiences** in this earthly life, he called that Savior ***the Holy One***.

Of course, anytime David spoke, he spoke in categories applicable to any of his descendants as the chosen line of God.

But this reference to God's **Holy One** is unique & stands out.

In **Hebrew**, it is ***Hassid***, which comes from the **root word** for **faithfulness & covenant love & mercy**, *hesed*.

So **the Holy One** of Psalm 16:10 is the **Faithful covenant-keeping** One, the **loyally loving & gracious** One.

That's why it's rightly **capitalized** in most English translations.

David said God would not allow that Holy One of God undergo decay.

That is where David's words **moved from himself** to the Messiah as the **greater David**, the greater King from his line.

David's **hope for entering God's presence** was in this Holy One who would overcome the decay of death.

God's Holy One would **not be abandoned** to the realm of the dead or stay in the grave for His flesh to corrupt & decay.

This was **Someone greater than David**, the Messiah predicted in so many different passages in various pictures & promises.

So Paul was explaining David's expectation of the resurrection.

Get that—Paul was **not** quoting Psalm 16 to **prove** Jesus' resurrection.

They had **plenty of testimony** of Jesus' resurrection—Paul assumed that as a **known fact**.

Paul was using **that known fact** of the resurrection to prove that Jesus was the Holy One who is the Promised Savior.

Paul was showing that Jesus is the one who secured eternal **life**.

So Jesus **is** the fulfilled promise of a Savior.

As I've said repeatedly—**Jesus is the hope of all history**.

So #1—The resurrection proved Jesus is God's Son who secured eternal rule and **He is therefore the Sovereign King**.

#2—The resurrection proved Jesus is David's Son who secured eternal mercies and **He is therefore the Sinner's Savior**.

And **#3**—The resurrection proved Jesus is the Holy One who secured eternal life & **He is therefore the Source of life**.

If you don't worship Jesus as King & trust Him as Savior & enjoy His life, please let us pray for you & lead you to Him.

And if you do know Jesus—praise Him & tell others about Him.

Let's pray we worship Him & proclaim Him as He deserves.

Pray with me as we close.