

The Book of
ACTS

EAGER TO HEAR!

(Acts 13:42-52)

Outline of the Book of Acts (Timeline):

<https://mansfieldgac.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/timeline-of-the-book-of-acts.pdf>

30 AD. (Acts 1): Jesus Christ crucified, buried, & Risen!

(Acts 2): The Holy Spirit comes & 3000 people are saved!

31 AD. (Acts 3-4): The lame man healed at the temple gate; the church in Jerusalem grows to 8000.

32 AD. (Acts 5): Ananias & Saphira judged by God.

33 AD. (Acts 6-7): First deacons chosen in the church to deal with a problem; many Jewish priests are saved; Stephen's ministry leads to his martyrdom.

34 AD. (Acts 8): Persecution breaks out against the church in Jerusalem lead by Saul of Tarsus.

35-37 AD. (Acts 9): Saul (Paul) meets Jesus on the road to Damascus and surrenders in salvation! He begins to spread the Gospel.

37-40 AD. (Acts 9:32—10:48): Peter ministers in Lydda and Joppa. Cornelius, the first fully Gentile convert saved in Caesarea!

41-44 AD. (Acts 11:1—13:3): Peter debates the salvation of the Gentiles to the Jerusalem church, Barnabas & Saul minister to the church in Antioch, Agabus predicts the famine, Herod kills James the brother of John, & Peter is put in prison. Peter is rescued by an angel of the Lord, Herod dies a violent death, and Barnabas and Saul are commissioned by the church for the first missionary journey.

I. THE RESPONSE OF THE CROWD:

A. WHY DID THEY WANT TO HEAR?

- 1 Church was over, but the people (Gentiles) asked for more! Then some of the more devout Jews and proselytes followed Paul &

Barnabas after synagogue was over and they wanted to know more.

- 2 In order to become part of Judaism and get close to God, a person would be taught about God, the Law of Moses, circumcision (for males), immersion (for everyone), and then a temple sacrifice. THEN, you could be considered righteous and could approach God.
- 3 Paul & Barnabas preached that God has opened a new way to come near to Him—through the forgiveness offered through the blood of Jesus! THEN, a person could be righteous not based on who you are or what you do.
- 4 The next Sabbath: the crowd swells from hundreds into the thousands.

B. OPPOSITION ARISES:

- 1 The Jewish leaders get jealous because of the large crowds. They begin attacking what Paul and Barnabas are saying.
- 2 Paul & Barnabas tell them..."you judge yourselves unworthy of eternal life."
- 3 IN ORDER TO COME TO GOD & BE SAVED:
 - a) We must believe & receive that God exists and that He is both holy and good.
 - b) We must believe & receive that we are sinners separated from Him.
 - c) We must believe & receive that Christ died to make us right before the Father.
- 4 A NOTE ON VERSE 48:
 - a) This verse affirms that we are not the source of our salvation nor that it was just a decision that we made.
 - b) **Illustration: The door of Salvation.**
 - c) If you are saved, God set His love and affection on you before creation and then drew you by His love to Himself.
- 5 Verse 52: fullness of joy and being full of the Holy Spirit are characteristics of someone who is born again!