

Acts 13:14-52
Cross Brand C3:16
7.8.26
Sources: John MacAuthor / gotquestions.org

I. The invitation to teach

¹⁴ They continued their journey from Perga and reached Pisidian Antioch. On the Sabbath day they went into the synagogue and sat down. ¹⁵ After the reading of the Law and the Prophets, the leaders of the synagogue sent word to them, saying, “Brothers, if you have any word of encouragement for the people, you can speak.”

II. The sermon Paul preaches

Acts 13:¹⁶ Paul stood up and motioned with his hand and said, “Fellow Israelites, and you who fear God, listen!

A. A few observations about the message

This was the first and longest sermon recorded by Paul

They had sailed nearly 200 miles to get there

Paul may have been sick

Travelled another 100 miles

II Cor 11:26

On frequent journeys, I faced dangers from rivers, dangers from robbers, dangers from my own people, dangers from Gentiles, dangers in the city, dangers in the wilderness, dangers at sea, and dangers among false brothers;

B. The gospel was presented

The message was Paul as the presenter

The message was Christ centered

The message was good news

C. The message was in 3 divisions (per John MacArthur)

A. "Jesus: The culmination of history"

Acts 13:17-22

B. "Jesus: The fulfillment of prophesy"

Acts 13: 23-37

C. "Jesus: The justifier of sinners"

Acts 13:38-41

*****Remember

--We must continue to cater information to the specific audience while engaging in a gospel presentation.

--We must not depend on "how we feel" if the Spirit prompts us to share the gospel

III. The response to Paul's sermon

Acts 13: ⁴² As they were leaving, the people^[k] urged them to speak about these matters the following Sabbath. ⁴³ After the synagogue had been dismissed, many of the Jews and devout converts to Judaism followed Paul and Barnabas, who were speaking with them and urging them to continue in the grace of God.

⁴⁴ The following Sabbath almost the whole town assembled to hear the word of the Lord.^[l]

A. The initial reactions of Paul's sermon

--The message was appealing to them

--They wanted to hear more about the message

--They were encouraged to remain firm in their faith in Christ urging them to continue in the grace of God.

--They were eager to hear more

*****Remember

--We need to remember the gospel is GREAT NEWS!

--We must keep the main thing the main thing. THE GOSPEL!

B. The negative reactions to Paul's sermon.

Acts 13: ⁴⁵ But when the Jews saw the crowds, they were filled with jealousy and began to contradict what Paul was saying, insulting him. ⁴⁶ Paul and Barnabas boldly replied, "It was necessary that the word of God be spoken to you first. Since you reject it and judge yourselves unworthy of eternal life, we are turning to the Gentiles. ⁴⁷ For this is what the Lord has commanded us:

**I have made you
a light for the Gentiles
to bring salvation
to the ends of the earth."**^[m]

⁵⁰ But the Jews incited the prominent God-fearing women and the leading men of the city. They stirred up persecution against Paul and Barnabas and expelled them from their district.

⁵¹ But Paul and Barnabas shook the dust off their feet against them and went to Iconium.

--They opposed the message due to racism.

--They were opposed the leaders and prominent people

II Tim 3:11 along with the persecutions and sufferings that came to me in Antioch, Iconium, and Lystra. What

persecutions I endured—and yet the Lord rescued me from them all.

II Cor 11:24-25 Five times I received the forty lashes minus one from the Jews. ²⁵ Three times I was beaten with rods. Once I received a stoning. Three times I was shipwrecked. I have spent a night and a day in the open sea.

--They were met with an epic response from the apostles.

Matt 15:24 He replied, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel."

Matt 10:5-6 ⁵ Jesus sent out these twelve after giving them instructions: "Don't take the road that leads to the Gentiles, and don't enter any Samaritan town. ⁶ Instead, go to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.

Luke 10:10-12 When you enter any town, and they don't welcome you, go out into its streets and say, ¹¹ 'We are wiping off even the dust of your town that clings to our feet as a witness against you. Know this for certain: The kingdom of God has come near.' ¹² I tell you, on that day it will be more tolerable for Sodom than for that town.

*****Remember

--We will have opposition

--We must remember they are not rejecting us, but Christ.

C. The response of the Gentiles

Acts 13: ⁴⁶ Paul and Barnabas boldly replied, "It was necessary that the word of God be spoken to you first. Since you reject it and judge yourselves unworthy of eternal life, we are turning to the Gentiles.

⁴⁸ When the Gentiles heard this, they rejoiced and honored the word of the Lord, and all who had been appointed to eternal life believed. ⁴⁹ The word of the Lord spread through the whole region.

--The Gentiles were ecstatic to be part of God's plan of salvation.

***** Remember

--We are to take the gospel to everyone!

Close:

“Any church not involved in the Great Commission has forfeited its Biblical right to exist.” —Oswald J. Smith