

Forgiveness for all ... who trust in Christ!

Acts 13

Main idea: Through Jesus, God offers salvation to all; so, believe in Jesus and share the gospel.

<sup>13</sup> Now Paul and his companions set sail from Paphos and came to Perga in Pamphylia. And John left them and returned to Jerusalem, <sup>14</sup> but they went on from Perga and came to Antioch in Pisidia. And on the Sabbath day they went into the synagogue and sat down. <sup>15</sup> After the reading from the Law and the Prophets, the rulers of the synagogue sent a message to them, saying, "Brothers, if you have any word of encouragement for the people, say it." <sup>16</sup> So Paul stood up, and motioning with his hand said: "Men of Israel and you who fear God, listen.

<sup>17</sup> The God of this people Israel chose our fathers and made the people great during their stay in the land of Egypt, and with uplifted arm he led them out of it. <sup>18</sup> And for about forty years he put up with them in the wilderness. <sup>19</sup> And after destroying seven nations in the land of Canaan, he gave them their land as an inheritance. <sup>20</sup> All this took about 450 years. And after that he gave them judges until Samuel the prophet. <sup>21</sup> Then they asked for a king, and God gave them Saul the son of Kish, a man of the tribe of Benjamin, for forty years. <sup>22</sup> And when he had removed him, he raised up David to be their king, of whom he testified and said, 'I have found in David the son of Jesse a man after my heart, who will do all my will.'

<sup>23</sup> Of this man's offspring God has brought to Israel a Savior, Jesus, as he promised. <sup>24</sup> Before his coming, John had proclaimed a baptism of repentance to all the people of Israel. <sup>25</sup> And as John was finishing his course, he said, 'What do you suppose that I am? I am not he. No, but behold, after me one is coming, the sandals of whose feet I am not worthy to untie.' ...

<sup>38</sup> Let it be known to you therefore, brothers, that through this man forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you, <sup>39</sup> and by him everyone who believes is freed from everything from which you could not be freed by the law of Moses. <sup>40</sup> Beware, therefore, lest what is said in the Prophets should come about: <sup>41</sup> "'Look, you scoffers, be astounded and perish; for I am doing a work in your days, a work that you will not believe, even if one tells it to you.'" (vv. 38-41).

Main idea: Through Jesus, God offers salvation to all; so, believe in Jesus and share the gospel.

## Forgiveness for all ...

- 1. Seek out lost people (vv. 13-15).**
- 2. God's guarantees results (vv. 16-41).**
- 3. The choice we all face (vv. 42-52).**

## 1. Seek out lost people (vv. 13-15).

<sup>13</sup> Now Paul and his companions set sail from Paphos and came to Perga in Pamphylia. And John left them and returned to Jerusalem, <sup>14</sup> but they went on from Perga and came to Antioch in Pisidia. And on the Sabbath day they went into the synagogue and sat down. <sup>15</sup> After the reading from the Law and the Prophets, the rulers of the synagogue sent a message to them, saying, "Brothers, if you have any word of encouragement for the people, say it." <sup>16</sup> So Paul stood up, and motioning with his hand said: "Men of Israel and you who fear God, listen."

### 3 Important aspects of evangelism.

- i. Go to lost people (vv. 13, 14, 16; 1:8; Mt 28:18-20).**
- ii. Learn God's Word (v. 15).**
- iii. Contextualize the message (v. 15; 1Co 9:19-23).**

## 2. God guarantees results (vv. 17-41).

<sup>17</sup> The God of this people Israel chose our fathers and made the people great during their stay in the land of Egypt, and with uplifted arm he led them out of it. <sup>18</sup> And for about forty years he put up with them in the wilderness. <sup>19</sup> And after destroying seven nations in the land of Canaan, he gave them their land as an inheritance. <sup>20</sup> All this took about 450 years. And after that he gave them judges until Samuel the prophet. <sup>21</sup> Then they asked for a king, and God gave them Saul the son of Kish, a man of the tribe of Benjamin, for forty years. <sup>22</sup> And when he had removed him, he raised up David to be their king, of whom he testified and said, 'I have found in David the son of Jesse a man after my heart, who will do all my will.' <sup>23</sup> Of this man's offspring God has brought to Israel a Savior, Jesus, as he promised.

God has worked in history for salvation.

- i. God controlled history to bring Jesus (vv. 17-25).**
- ii. Jesus died for us (vv. 26-27; 1 Cor 15:3-5).**
- iii. God desires to show mercy (vv. 28-31).**
- iv. Mercy is offered to all (vv. 32; 38).**
- v. Refusing mercy leads to judgement (vv. 40-41).**

Share the gospel like Paul.

- i. Share the gospel (Jesus' death, burial, resurrection) as historically accurate.**
- ii. Base the gospel on the Bible.**
- iii. Offering salvation to all people.**
- iv. Share that God's forgiveness is complete forgiveness.**

### 3. The choice we all face (vv. 42-52).

<sup>48</sup> And when the Gentiles heard this, they began rejoicing and glorifying the word of the Lord, and as many as were appointed to eternal life believed. <sup>49</sup> And the word of the Lord was spreading throughout the whole region. <sup>50</sup> But the Jews incited the devout women of high standing and the leading men of the city, stirred up persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and drove them out of their district. <sup>51</sup> But they shook off the dust from their feet against them and went to Iconium. <sup>52</sup> And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.

Two gospel responses (vv. 42-52).

- i. **Belief unto salvation/joy (v. 48).**
- ii. **Rejection unto perdition/hostility (v. 50).**

Deal with rejection/hostility like Paul.

- i. The enemy uses persecution and difficulty to stop gospel proclamation.**
- ii. Shake the dust off your feet (v. 51).**
- iii. Be filled with joy (v. 52).**

**Choose to trust Jesus and receive mercy.**

**Share mercy with someone else.**