

ACTS - FROM RESURRECTION TO REVELATION

Lesson 23

Review: *Though this first of the missionary journeys started with such great hopes, it has yet to produce much in the way of converts. Under Paul's leadership, they leave "Barnabas' Jerusalem" and head to "Paul's Jerusalem" - the Tarsus Mountains.*

I. Mark - A Servant Who Had Every Reason Not To Quit - Acts 13:5, 13

- 1) He was possibly a direct convert of Peter's - *1 Peter 5:13*
- 2) His home was used by the early church, and maybe the "upper room". *Acts 12*
- 3) He was clearly being disciplined by Barnabas, his uncle.

II. Mark - A Servant Who Found A Reason To Quit - Acts 13:14 / 15:36-41

A) It could have been an issue of FAITHLESSNESS

- 1) Operating outside of God's CALLING / WILL
- 2) Operating outside of God's COMMUNION
- 3) Operating outside of Godly CONCERNS / MOTIVES

B) It could have been an issue of FORTITUDE

- 1) Fainting at the thought of DANGER
- 2) Fainting at the thought of DEPREVIATION
- 3) Fainting at the thought of DISCOMFORT

C) It could have been an issue of FRUSTRATION

- 1) Disagreeing with leadership's DIRECTION
- 2) Discouraged with leadership's DEMANDS
- 3) Disgusted with leadership's DEMEANOR

D) It could have been an issue of FATIGUE

Over-extended physically, mentally, spiritually

E) It could have been an issue of FEARING FAILURE

- 1) Measuring our success by results rather than by obedience.
- 2) Measuring our success by man's praise rather than God's glory.
- 3) Measuring success by personal agenda rather than God's agenda

F) It could have been an issue of FLESHLY FOCUS

Seeking this world's fortune, fame, or folly - II Tim. 4:10-11

III. Reasons To Never Quit On Those Who Feel They Have Reasons To Quit

- 1) Barnabas would continue to disciple along with Peter
- 2) Mark would write the first Gospel and minister to Peter in Rome
- 3) Mark was a great help to Paul in his latter days - *Col. 4:10*