

# Urgency

## Acts 13:44-52

Reading Through The Bible In 2021

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Does The Gospel Message  
Of Jesus Christ Motivate  
Your Daily Life?

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## Snapshot of 2<sup>nd</sup> Half of Acts

- Events shift from the church in Jerusalem
- Focus primarily on Paul
- Rapid movement of the gospel
- Real persecution
- The driving power of the Holy Spirit

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## Paul and Barnabas's First Missionary Journey

- Acts 13:4-14:26
- AD 46-47
- Church is now 13~14 years old
- Gospel moved from Jerusalem
- Antioch in Syria becomes home base

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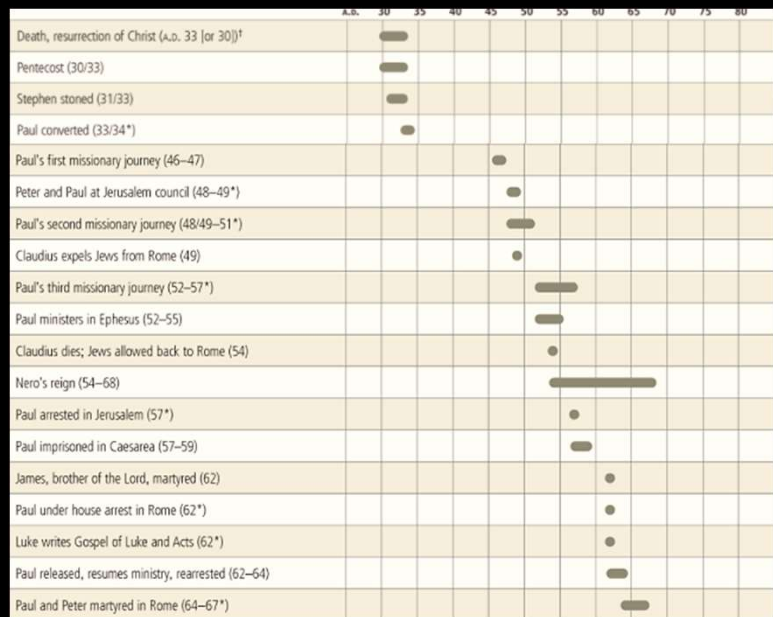
## Paul and Barnabas's First Missionary Journey

City	Province/Region	Reference
Antioch	Syria	<a href="#">13:1-3</a>
Seleucia	Syria	<a href="#">13:4</a>
Salamis	Cyprus	<a href="#">13:5</a>
Paphos	Cyprus	<a href="#">13:6-12</a>
Perga	Lycia (region of Pamphylia)	<a href="#">13:13</a>
Antioch	Galatia (region of Pisidia)	<a href="#">13:14-52</a>
Iconium	Galatia	<a href="#">14:1-6</a>
Lystra	Galatia (region of Lycaonia)	<a href="#">14:6, 8-19</a>
Derbe	Galatia (region of Lycaonia)	<a href="#">14:6, 20-21</a>
Lystra	Galatia (region of Lycaonia)	<a href="#">14:21-23</a>
Iconium	Galatia	<a href="#">14:21-23</a>
Antioch	Galatia (region of Pisidia)	<a href="#">14:24</a>
Perga	Lycia (region of Pamphylia)	<a href="#">14:24-25</a>
Attalia	Lycia	<a href="#">14:25</a>
Antioch	Syria	<a href="#">14:26-28</a>

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## Snapshot Of Time

- o Death of Christ - 33AD
- o Salvation of Saul (Paul) - 34AD
- o First Missionary Journey - 46-47AD
- o Paul's Arrest in Jerusalem - 57AD
- o Paul Under House Arrest - 62AD



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## Acts 13:44-52

The next Sabbath almost the whole city gathered to hear the word of the Lord. But when the Jews saw the crowds, they were filled with jealousy and began to contradict what was spoken by Paul, reviling him. And Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly, saying, "It was necessary that the word of God be spoken first to you. Since you thrust it aside and judge yourselves unworthy of eternal life, behold, we are turning to the Gentiles. For so the Lord has commanded us, saying,

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## Acts 13:44-52

"'I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth.'"

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. And the word of the Lord was spreading throughout the whole region. 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

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Acts 13:44-52

their district. But they shook off the dust from their feet against them and went to Iconium. And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.

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## Follow

### The Obedience To Go

- The church moving forward despite persecution
  - Rapid multiplication
  - Rapid spread around the world
- Antioch Grows And Sends
  - As the church grows, Paul is brought to help disciple
  - Movement of the Holy Spirit to send
  - Sent the best, confirmed by the Holy Spirit

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## Follow

### The Obedience To Go Breaking Barriers

- Historical challenges to go
- Religious and racial divide of people
  - Judaism and Christianity
  - Conflict over Jesus

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## Follow

### The Obedience To Go Breaking Barriers Paul & Barnabas Move Forward

- Conflict at every town
- Conflict within the group
  - John Mark exits
  - Later, this will cause a conflict between Paul and Barnabas

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## Follow

**The Obedience To Go  
Breaking Barriers  
Paul & Barnabas Move Forward  
Planned Approach**

- **Connection with the Jews – the Sabbath Synagogue**
  - **Demonstration of Jesus through the prophets**
  - **Declaration of the death and resurrection of Jesus**
- **Willingness to share with the Gentiles**
- **Both groups see salvation**

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## Fury

**Religious Competition And Conflict**

- **As the church is planted**
  - **The movement away from the established**
    - **Paul and Barnabas urged to stay and continue to teach the grace of God**
  - **“The Jews”**
    - **Filled with jealousy when they saw the crowds**
    - **Began to spread contradiction to the gospel**

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## Fury

### Religious Competition And Conflict

#### Religion Only Exist With Control

- Reoccurring oppression through the first century church
  - Conflict in the earthly ministry of Jesus
  - Extends to the birth of the Church Age
  - Continues through today
- Religion seeks to control a person's actions and thoughts
  - Christianity is a relationship not obligation

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## Fury

### Religious Competition And Conflict

#### Religion Only Exist With Control

#### Religion Can Creep Into The Church

- The debate over Gentiles and grace alone
- The Council Of Jerusalem (Acts 15)
  - Is grace alone enough for Gentiles?

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## **Fury**

**Religious Competition And Conflict**

**Religion Only Exist With Control**

**Religion Can Creep Into The Church**

**Reaction –Growth!**

- **As the church faces conflict and persecution, growth is the result**
- **What is of God can not be stopped by man... or Satan**

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## **Fury**

**Religious Competition And Conflict**

**Religion Only Exist With Control**

**Religion Can Creep Into The Church**

**Reaction –Growth!**

**Rejoicing Gentiles**

- **Freedom to be a part of the Body of Christ – the church**
- **Glorified God because of grace and eternal life**
- **The whole region heard the gospel**

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# *Flee*

## **The Battleground**

- **As Gentiles are coming to God through grace**
  - **The Jews continue to stir conflict**
  - **Jealousy and anger spreads to willing participants**
  - **Devout women of high standing**
  - **Leading men**

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# *Flee*

## **The Battleground**

- **As Gentiles are coming to God through grace**
- **Gentile salvation impacted idolatry**
  - **The districts and cities steeped in idolatry**
  - **False gods worshiped in temples**
  - **New believers abandon false gods to follow Jesus**

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# Flee

## The Battleground

- As Gentiles are coming to God through grace
- Gentile salvation impacted idolatry
- Persecution is stirred up against Paul and Barnabas
  - Drove them out of their district
  - Seeds of the gospel planted and sprouted

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# Flee

## The Battleground

### Move On...

- It is ok to move on..
  - Practice taught by Jesus  
Matthew 10:14  
And if anyone will not receive you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet when you leave that house or town.

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# Flee

## The Battleground

### Move On...

- It is ok to move on..
  - Practice taught by Jesus - Matthew 10:14
  - Why? – Urgency!
    - The gospel is an unstoppable message
    - The command is to go make disciples
    - The response is NOT a measure of success or failure
  - Success is going

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# Flee

## The Battleground

### Move On...

### Joy In Obedience

- Filled with joy
  - Reflective of being used by God
  - Seeing lives being changed
- Filled with the Holy Spirit
  - God in us
  - Peace and joy for obeying and sharing

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