

## Acts 13 - Paul's First Missionary Journey - Part 1

**Acts 13:1-3** Now there were in the church that was at Antioch certain **prophets** and **teachers**; as Barnabas, and Simeon that was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen, which had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. 2 As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them. 3 And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid their hands on them, they sent them away.

### 1. The \_\_\_\_\_ - Antioch - v.1

- The 3rd largest city of the Roman Empire after Rome in Italy and Alexandria in Egypt. Because so many ancient cities were called by this name, it is often called **Antioch of Syria**. (not to be confused with Antioch of Pisidia - Acts 13:14)

### 2. The \_\_\_\_\_ - v.1

- In the New Testament only Jerusalem is more closely related to the spread of early Christianity. In the book of Acts, we are seeing another key transition, with Antioch becoming the “model” NT church.
- The persecution that arose over Stephen resulted in Jewish believers scattering to Cyprus, Cyrene, and Antioch (Acts 11:19).
- In Antioch the believers were first called Christians (11:26), and it was to Antioch that Barnabas fetched Saul (Paul) from Tarsus so that they could teach this mixed congregation of Jewish and Gentile followers of the Lord.
- At Antioch the Christian prophet Agabus foretold the famine that would shortly overtake the Roman world (11:28). The disciples responded with the work of famine relief for the church in Jerusalem, directed and carried out from Antioch.
- We are now seeing the first missionaries commissioned and sent out of a local church.

### 3. The “\_\_\_\_\_” leaders at the church of Antioch - v.1

- \_\_\_\_\_ - a Jew - **Acts 4:36**
- \_\_\_\_\_ that was called Niger - African - **Matthew 27:32, Mark 15:21**
- \_\_\_\_\_ of Cyrene - Originally came from northern Africa.
  - **Acts 2:10, Acts 11:19-20. Same as Rom. 16:21?**
- \_\_\_\_\_, which had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch
  - Herod ANTIPAS - (Herod the tetrarch)
    - Brother to Herod Archelaus
    - Murdered John the Baptist - Matt. 14:1-12
    - Mocked Jesus - Luke 23:6-12
  - Manaen would have been a product of the Roman governmental system.
- \_\_\_\_\_ - a Jew - Prophet and teacher - **1 Timothy 2:7**
- 2 Africans, 2 Jews, and 1 product of the Roman system...5 different men with different backgrounds, with different cultures, with different testimonies - joined together by God for the work of the MINISTRY!

- **Gal. 3:28, 1 Corinthians 12:13**

#### 4. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the HOLY GHOST - v.2

- “As they ministered to the Lord”
  - They were ministering to Lord “in the **church** that was at **Antioch**”
  - **KEY:** Ministry to the Lord happens at the \_\_\_\_\_ level
  - **KEY:** Ministry to the Lord happens when you use your \_\_\_\_\_
- “The Holy Ghost said”
  - **KEY:** If the Holy Spirit is big enough to confirm his leading in \_\_\_\_\_ life (and He is!), he’s big enough to confirm it in the lives of CHURCH \_\_\_\_\_!

#### 5. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the CHURCH LEADERSHIP - v.3

- “And when they had **fasted** and **prayed**, and **laid their hands** on them, they sent them away”
- “Fasted”
  - Jesus taught that certain demonic strongholds can only be removed through fasting and prayer - **Mat 17:21**
  - Fasting accompanied the ordination of elders - **Acts 14:23**
  - Fasting was an important part of Paul’s ministry - **2 Cor 11:27**
- “Prayed”
  - **Luke 6:12-13, Dan. 9:3**
- “laid their hands on them”
  - Leadership selection ESPECIALLY in the church body follows a BIBLICAL pattern.
  - “\_\_\_\_\_” - **Lev. 4:13-15**
  - “\_\_\_\_\_” - **1 Tim. 4:14**
  - “\_\_\_\_\_” - **Acts 6:6, 1 Timothy 5:22**

#### 6. CONSIDERATIONS

- How was this going to affect the church at Antioch?
- Ministry and Missionary work is best done by \_\_\_\_\_!
  - Jesus sent the apostles out 2 by 2 - **Mark 6:7, Luke 10:1**
  - Paul and Barnabas - **Acts 13:1-3**
  - Paul & Silas / Barnabas & John Mark - **Acts 15:39-40**
  - Paul and entire ministry team - **Acts 20:4**
- Who are you doing ministry with?