

Acts 13 - Paul's First Missionary Journey - Part 3

Text: Acts 13:4-14

Intro to Missions!

- *As we will see, Paul's emphasis was to reach KEY MEN in KEY CITIES. He evangelized the key population centers of his day, the centers of culture, commerce and government. He sought to plant pioneering churches in the cities; those churches could then evangelize the remote areas. The responsibility of penetrating the forests and far-off mountain tribes was for the city churches (the nationals) that he left behind.*

1. From Antioch to SELEUCIA - v.4

- a. Seleucia was a Syrian city on the Mediterranean coast, about 15 miles from Antioch. It was one of the world's most famous ports.

2. From Seleucia they sailed to CYPRUS - v.4

- a. Cyprus is a large island in the eastern Mediterranean Sea (mentioned 8x in the book of Acts).

3. SALAMIS - v.5

- a. The commercial capital of Cyprus located on the east coast.

4. PAPHOS - v.6-8

- a. Paphos was the political capital of Cyprus - it was the seat of the Roman government on the island, located on the west coast.
- b. Paphos was the seat of the worship of Aphrodite (Greek)/Venus (Roman) - the ancient goddess of love, beauty, pleasure, and procreation.
- c. **The _____ at Paphos - v.6-8**
 - i. **“SORCERER”** a “false prophet”, a “Jew”
 1. Other significant “political” leaders in the Bible were surrounded with sorcerers. **1st Mention: Exodus 7:11**
 2. **Daniel 2:2, Acts 8:5-9, Revelation 21:8**
 - ii. **The Sorcerer's _____**
 1. “Barjesus” - son of Jesus
 2. “Elymas” - "a wise man" - The Holy Spirit of God wants you to KNOW this false teachers NAME!
 - iii. **The Sorcerer's _____**
 1. Paul and Barnabas bring threatens the false prophet's usefulness to the island's most powerful administrator.
 2. Sergius Paulus - A prudent man - wise/intelligent.
 - a. **Matthew 11:25, 1 Corinthians 1:19**
 3. But he also desired to hear the word of God!

- a. We have to understand the devil is in control of the kingdoms of this world!
 - b. **Matt. 4:8-9, 2 Corinthians 4:4, 1 Tim. 2:1-4, Acts 26:28**
4. There is a SIGNIFICANT spiritual battle over the influence of KEY MEN in KEY CITIES.

iv. **The Sorcerer's _____**

- 1. This was Paul's FIRST apostolic "miracle". This sorcerer became BLIND "for a season". Much like Saul's blindness after his Damascus road encounter w/ Jesus.
 - a. "For a season" - indicates a chance for repentance! The same gospel that is going to save the deputy could have saved Elymas.

v. **The Deputy's _____ - v.12**

- 1. The deputy's faith was not in the MIRACLE, but in the DOCTRINE of the Lord! The WORD of GOD always does the work!
- 2. **Matthew 7:28, 1 Timothy 4:16**

5. **Paphos to PERGA in Pamphylia - v.13**

- a. John Mark's departure back to Jerusalem from the team would be a point of contention later in Paul & Barnabas' ministry.
 - i. **Acts 15:36-40**
- b. **Key lessons to consider:**
 - i. Not everyone who begins with you will FINISH...
 - ii. Not everyone who is WILLING to go is READY to go...
 - iii. Ministry relationships can be STRAINED for different reasons...
 - iv. God is able to RESTORE and use people who have failed in the past
 - 1. **2 Timothy 4:11**

6. **Perga to ANTIOCH in Pisidia - v.14**

- a. Paul's first recorded SERMON - v.16-41
 - i. POINT #1 - Jesus, the needed culmination of _____! - v.16-25
 - ii. POINT #2 - Jesus, the needed sacrifice of _____! - v.23-37
 - iii. POINT #3 - Jesus, the needed justifier of _____ - v.37-41
- b. The people's RESPONSE v. 42-43
- c. The religious leader's REJECTION - v.44-50

7. **Antioch in Pisidia to ICONIUM - v. 50-52**

- a. "Shake off the dust" - **Mark 6:11**