

## *ACTS - Living in the Promises of Jesus*

### Acts 13

### Lesson 10

Acts 13 is a chapter of "firsts" – The first missionary journey and Paul's first recorded sermon. As we study this chapter, we can see the anointing of the Holy Spirit in both sending and equipping. He continues to send; He continues to equip. May we be willing receptors of both.

#### **OBSERVATION: Read Acts 13**

1. Read through this week's verses using both your Observation Worksheet (the last page of this homework) and another Bible translation or paraphrase. After reading through these verses, what would you say to someone if they asked you what they are about?

2. Key words help us to better understand the verses. We have listed below key words. Mark each one in a distinctive way (either with a symbol, highlighting, or some form of boxing, circling, or underlining). Mark each of the key words each time they are used in the text. Remember to mark any personal pronouns that refer to *God, Jesus, Holy Spirit, or Saul/Paul and Barnabas*.

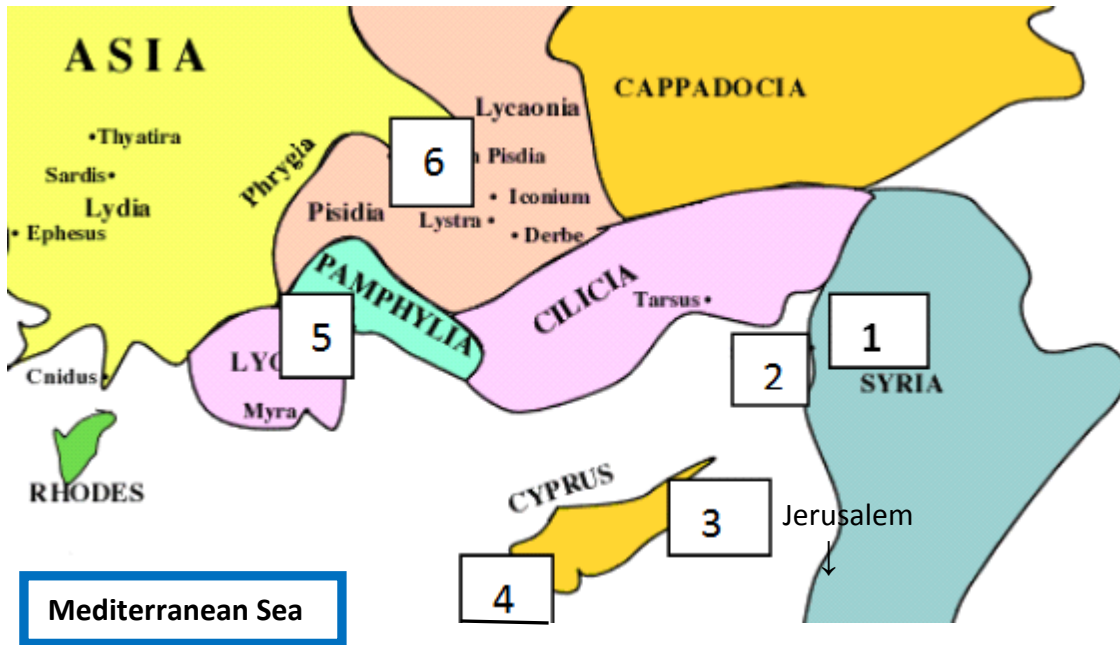
Key Words: *God, Jesus, Holy Spirit, all references to the apostle Saul/Paul and Barnabas, believe(s,d)*

3. Paul quoted the Old Testament several times. The words are italicized on your Observation Worksheet. Highlight them and list what God declared in each of them.

4. The contrasting word *but* was used nine times in Acts 13. Mark each time the word was used. Choose one of those times and record what is being contrasted.

5. The term of conclusion, therefore, was used three times in Acts 13. Mark each time the word is used. Choose one of those times; record the conclusion and what it was based upon.

6. Using the map below, retrace Paul's and Barnabas' journey. 1= Antioch in Syria 2= Seleucia 3= Salamis 4= Paphos 5= Perga 6= Antioch in Pisidia



### SAUL AND BARNABAS SENT FROM ANTIOCH (SYRIA): Read Acts 13:1-3

1. We read of the church in Antioch being established in Acts 11. Acts 13 reveals this church in action. From Acts 11:20-26, what were the important ingredients that led to the establishment of this church?
  - a. ...there were certain prophets and teachers. Their names are listed in verse 1. What two familiar names do you see?
2. What two things were they doing when the *Holy Spirit* spoke to them?
  - a. Why do you think the *Holy Spirit* is moved by these two actions?
3. What did the *Holy Spirit* tell them to do? verse 2

Challenge: From what you have learned so far in Acts, what "missionary behavior" have you seen in Paul and Barnabas?

- a. What two pronouns are used of the *Holy Spirit* in this verse that reveal that He is a Person, not an essence?

4. Notice the phrase *separate unto Me*. What are some synonyms for the word *separate*?
  - a. Why is it important to *separate ourselves to the Lord*, when we serve Him?
5. Before those in the church of Antioch *sent them away*, what three things did they do?
  - a. How does this reveal the importance of taking seriously the sending out of missionaries?

### **PAUL AND BARNABAS IN CYPRESS: Read Acts 13:4-12**

1. Leaving from the nearby city of Salamis, they sailed to the island of Cypress. Who was with them?
  - a. The first record of this *John* in Acts can be found in Acts 12:12,25. What do we know about him from these two verses and from Colossians 4:10?
2. They found a man named *Bar-Jesus* (called *Elymas* in verse 8). What do verses 6 and 7 disclose about him?
  - a. Why did he *withstand* Paul and Barnabas? verse 8
  - b. What was Paul's reaction toward the *sorcerer*?
    - 1.) This was a strong reaction. How can we know Paul was led of the Holy Spirit to say and do what he did? verse 9
  - c. How is Paul's aggressive approach to dealing with sin a helpful example to follow?
    - 1.) When would it not be the right approach?

3. What did the proconsul do *when he saw what had been done*?
  - a. What do you think it was like for him to see the darkness of the sorcerer exposed by Paul through the power of the Holy Spirit?
  - b. The Proconsuls oversaw the administration of civil and military matters in a province. They were accountable to the senate in Rome. All conversions are important. What might have been the potential of this particular conversion?
    - 1.) We all have particular spheres of influence. What is yours?

**PAUL AND BARNABAS IN ANTIOCH (PISIDIA):**  
**PAUL'S FIRST RECORDED SERMON: Read Acts 13:13-41**

1. What happened when *Paul and his party came to Perga*?
  - a. According to Acts 15:36-38, what impression did John Mark's *departure* have on Paul?
2. *When they departed from Perga, they came to Antioch in Pisidia, and went into the synagogue... The rulers of the synagogue invited them to "say on" if they had any word of exhortation for the people. verses 14,15 Who stood up and began to speak?*
  - a. This is Paul's first recorded sermon. How did he address his audience?
3. Paul, in a style much like Stephen, proceeded to recount Israel's history from the captivity in Egypt to King David. Paul quoted 1 Samuel 13:14. What did Paul remind them about David in Acts 13:22?
4. Up to this point in Paul's sermon, the Jews would have been in total agreement with him. Verse 23 begins a transition, pointing to the *Savior*. Record this verse.
  - a. The prophecy Paul spoke of is mentioned in the following verses. What do we learn from them?

Psalm 132:11,17

Jeremiah 23:5,6

5. Acts 13:24-25 refer to John the Baptist. John clearly stated that he was not the Messiah. Soak in John's statements about Jesus and make a list of what he said about Him in John 1:29-34.
  
6. Record the last phrase of Acts 13:26.
  - a. Paul retold the account of Jesus' death and resurrection in verses 27-31. What *glad tidings* did Paul declare in verses 32,33?
  
7. Paul again quoted Old Testament Scriptures as speaking of Jesus. What three statements did God make about Jesus? See verses 33,34,35.
  
8. Record the three glorious truths of Acts 13:37-39.
  - a. Define or explain the word *justified*.
  
9. Paul warned them to beware, lest the devastation that happened to Israel, as prophesied by Habakkuk, come upon them in *their days*. What is the consequence of rejecting the gospel? See John 3:18.
  - a. Record the powerful question in Hebrews 2:3.

**PAUL AND BARNABAS IN ANTIOCH (PISIDIA):  
BLESSINGS AND CONFLICT: Read Acts 13:42-53**

1. In these last verses of Acts 13, we see a people divided; some wanted Paul and Barnabas to speak more; some wanted to *expel them from the region*. Complete the following chart contrasting the reaction of the *Gentiles* and the *Jews*.

Gentiles	Jews

2. What was Paul's and Barnabas' reaction to the *persecution* by the Jews?

a. What was Jesus' instruction to the disciples in Matthew 10:14?

1.) What statement is a person making when they *shake the dust off from their feet*?

### **REVIEW: Read Acts 13**

1. In what ways have you been encouraged to pray for those your church sends out as missionaries?

2. How have you been challenged to consider your sphere of influence as far as sharing the gospel?

3. What have you learned from Paul's example about the importance of knowing Scripture?

4. In what ways have you been challenged or encouraged by this lesson?

*And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit*  
- Acts 13:52

## Observation Worksheet

### Acts 13:1-52

<sup>1</sup> Now in the church that was at Antioch there were certain prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen who had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. <sup>2</sup> As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, "Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." <sup>3</sup> Then, having fasted and prayed, and laid hands on them, they sent them away. <sup>4</sup> So, being sent out by the Holy Spirit, they went down to Seleucia, and from there they sailed to Cyprus. <sup>5</sup> And when they arrived in Salamis, they preached the word of God in the synagogues of the Jews. They also had John as their assistant. <sup>6</sup> Now when they had gone through the island to Paphos, they found a certain sorcerer, a false prophet, a Jew whose name was Bar-Jesus, <sup>7</sup> who was with the proconsul, Sergius Paulus, an intelligent man. This man called for Barnabas and Saul and sought to hear the word of God. <sup>8</sup> But Elymas the sorcerer (for so his name is translated) withstood them, seeking to turn the proconsul away from the faith. <sup>9</sup> Then Saul, who also is called Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, looked intently at him <sup>10</sup> and said, "O full of all deceit and all fraud, you son of the devil, you enemy of all righteousness, will you not cease perverting the straight ways of the Lord?" <sup>11</sup> And now, indeed, the hand of the Lord is upon you, and you shall be blind, not seeing the sun for a time." And immediately a dark mist fell on him, and he went around seeking someone to lead him by the hand. <sup>12</sup> Then the proconsul believed, when he saw what had been done, being astonished at the teaching of the Lord. <sup>13</sup> Now when Paul and his party set sail from Paphos, they came to Perga in Pamphylia; and John, departing from them, returned to Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup> But when they departed from Perga, they came to Antioch in Pisidia, and went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day and sat down. <sup>15</sup> And after the reading of the Law and the Prophets, the rulers of the synagogue sent to them, saying, "Men and brethren, if you have any word of exhortation for the people, say on." <sup>16</sup> Then 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 exalted the people when they dwelt as strangers in the land of Egypt, and with an uplifted arm He brought them out of it. <sup>18</sup> Now for a time of about forty years He put up with their ways in the wilderness. <sup>19</sup> And when He had destroyed seven nations in the land of Canaan, He distributed their land to them by allotment. <sup>20</sup> After that He gave them judges for about four hundred and fifty years, until Samuel the prophet. <sup>21</sup> And afterward they asked for a king; so 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 for them David as king, to whom also He gave testimony and said, '*I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after My own heart, who will do all My will.*' <sup>23</sup> From this man's seed, according to the promise, God raised up for Israel a Savior--Jesus-- <sup>24</sup> after John had first preached, before His coming, the baptism of repentance to all the people of Israel. <sup>25</sup> And as John was finishing his course, he said, 'Who do you think I am? I am not He. But behold, there comes One after me, the sandals of whose feet I am not worthy to loose.' <sup>26</sup> Men and brethren, sons of the family of Abraham, and those among you who fear God, to you the word of this salvation has been sent. <sup>27</sup> For those who dwell in Jerusalem, and their rulers, because they did not know Him, nor even the voices of the Prophets which are read every Sabbath, have fulfilled them in condemning Him. <sup>28</sup> And

though they found no cause for death in Him, they asked Pilate that He should be put to death.<sup>29</sup> Now when they had fulfilled all that was written concerning Him, they took Him down from the tree and laid Him in a tomb.<sup>30</sup> But God raised Him from the dead.<sup>31</sup> He was seen for many days by those who came up with Him from Galilee to Jerusalem, who are His witnesses to the people.<sup>32</sup> And we declare to you glad tidings--that promise which was made to the fathers.<sup>33</sup> God has fulfilled this for us their children, in that He has raised up Jesus. As it is also written in the second Psalm: '*You are My Son, Today I have begotten You.*'<sup>34</sup> And that He raised Him from the dead, no more to return to corruption, He has spoken thus: '*I will give you the sure mercies of David.*'<sup>35</sup> Therefore He also says in another Psalm: '*You will not allow Your Holy One to see corruption.*'<sup>36</sup> "For David, after he had served his own generation by the will of God, fell asleep, was buried with his fathers, and saw corruption;<sup>37</sup> but He whom God raised up saw no corruption.<sup>38</sup> Therefore let it be known to you, brethren, that through this Man is preached to you the forgiveness of sins;<sup>39</sup> and by Him everyone who believes is justified from all things from which you could not be justified by the law of Moses.<sup>40</sup> Beware therefore, lest what has been spoken in the prophets come upon you: <sup>41</sup> "*Behold, you despisers, Marvel and perish! For I work a work in your days, A work which you will by no means believe, though one were to declare it to you.*"<sup>42</sup> So when the Jews went out of the synagogue, the Gentiles begged that these words might be preached to them the next Sabbath.<sup>43</sup> Now when the congregation had broken up, many of the Jews and devout proselytes followed Paul and Barnabas, who, speaking to them, persuaded them to continue in the grace of God.<sup>44</sup> On the next Sabbath almost the whole city came together to hear the word of God.<sup>45</sup> But when the Jews saw the multitudes, they were filled with envy; and contradicting and blaspheming, they opposed the things spoken by Paul.<sup>46</sup> Then Paul and Barnabas grew bold and said, "It was necessary that the word of God should be spoken to you first; but since you reject it, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, behold, we turn to the Gentiles.<sup>47</sup> For so the Lord has commanded us: '*I have set you as a light to the Gentiles, that you should be for salvation to the ends of the earth.*'"<sup>48</sup> Now when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad and glorified the word of the Lord. And as many as had been appointed to eternal life believed.<sup>49</sup> And the word of the Lord was being spread throughout all the region.<sup>50</sup> But the Jews stirred up the devout and prominent women and the chief men of the city, raised up persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and expelled them from their region.<sup>51</sup> But they shook off the dust from their feet against them, and came to Iconium.<sup>52</sup> And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.