

Acts 13-14 shape and keywords

[LEAVING SYRIAN ANTIOCH]

Now in the church at Antioch there were prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen a close friend since childhood of Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them."

[FASTING AND PRAYER]

Then after fasting and praying they laid their **hands** on them and sent them off.

[MINISTRY IN CYPRUS]

So, being sent out by the Holy Spirit, they went down to Seleucia; and from there they sailed to Cyprus. When they arrived at Salamis, they proclaimed **the word of God** in the synagogues of the **Judeans**. And they had John also to assist them.

When they had gone through the whole island as far as Paphos, they met a certain magician, a **Judean** false prophet, named Bar-Jesus. He was with the proconsul, Sergius Paulus, an intelligent man, who summoned Barnabas and Saul and was searching to hear **the word of God**. But the magician Elymas (for that is the translation of his name) opposed them and sought to turn the proconsul away from the faith. But Saul, also known as Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, looked intently at him and said, "You son of the devil, you enemy of all justice, full of all deceit and villainy, will you not stop making crooked the straight paths of the Lord? And now behold!--the **hand** of the Lord is against you, and you will be blind for a time, unable to see the sun." Immediately mist and darkness came over him, and he went about seeking for someone to lead him by the **hand**. When the proconsul saw what had happened, he believed, for he was astonished at the teaching about the Lord.

[PAUL IN PISIDIAN ANTIOCH]

Then Paul and his companions were led from Paphos and came to Perga in Pamphylia. John, however, abandoned them and returned to Jerusalem; but they went on from Perga and came to Antioch in Pisidia. And on the sabbath day they went into the synagogue and sat down. After the reading of the law and the prophets, the officials of the synagogue sent them a message, saying, "Men, brothers, if you have any word of exhortation for the **people**, speak."

So Paul stood up and waving his **hand**, began to speak: "Men, Israelites, and others who fear God, listen. The God of this **people** Israel chose our **fathers** and made the **people** great during their stay in the land of Egypt, and with uplifted arm he led them out of it. For about forty years he put up with them in the wilderness. After he had taken down seven **nations** in the land of Canaan, **he gave** them their land as an inheritance for about four hundred fifty years. After that **he gave** them judges until the time of the prophet Samuel. Then they asked for a king; and God **gave** them Saul son of Kish, a man of the tribe of Benjamin, who reigned for forty years. When he had removed him, he made David their king. In his testimony about him he said, 'I have found David, son of Jesse, to be a man after my heart, who will carry out all my wishes.' Of this man's **seed** God has brought to Israel a Savior, Jesus, as

he promised; before his coming John had already proclaimed a baptism of repentance to all the **people** of Israel. And as John was finishing his running, he said, 'What do you suppose that I am? I am not he. Behold, but one is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of the sandals on his feet.'

"My **brothers**, you **descendants** of Abraham's **family**, and others who fear God, to us the **word of this salvation** has been sent. Because the residents of Jerusalem and their leaders did not recognize him or the voice of the prophets that are read every sabbath, they fulfilled those words by condemning him. Even though they found no cause for death, they asked Pilate to have him taken away. When they had completed everything that was written about him, they took him down from the tree and laid him in a tomb. But God raised him from the dead; and for many days he appeared to those who came up with him from Galilee to Jerusalem, and they are now his witnesses to the **people**. And we bring you the good news that what God promised to our **fathers** he has fulfilled for us, their **children**, by raising Jesus; as also it is written in the second psalm, 'You are my **Son**; today I have begotten you.' As to his raising him from the dead, no more to return to corruption, he has spoken in this way, 'I **will give you** the holy promises made to David.' Therefore he has also said in another psalm, '**You will not give** your Holy One to experience corruption.' For David, after he had served the plan of God in his own **generation**, died, was laid beside his **fathers**, and experienced corruption; but he whom God raised up experienced no corruption. Let it be known to you therefore, my **brothers**, that through this one forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you; by this everyone who believes is made right from all those sins from which you could not be made right by the law of Moses. Look out, therefore, that what the prophets said does not happen to you: 'Look, you scoffers! Be amazed and perish, for in your days I am working a work, a work that you will never believe, even if someone tells you fully.'"

[MINISTRY IN GALATIA]

As Paul and Barnabas were going out, the **people** exhorted them to speak about these things the next sabbath. When the meeting of the synagogue broke up, many **Judeans** and devout converts followed Paul and Barnabas, who spoke to them and persuaded them to abide toward the grace of God. The next sabbath almost the whole city gathered to hear **the word of the Lord**.

But when the **Judeans** saw the **crowds**, they were filled with jealousy; and blaspheming, they contradicted what was spoken by Paul.

Then both Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly, saying, "It was necessary that **the word of God** should be spoken first to you. Because you reject it and judge yourselves to be **unworthy of eternal life**, we are now **turning to the nations**.

For so the Lord has commanded us, saying, 'I have set you to be a light for the **nations**, so that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth.'"

When the nations heard this, they were glad and praised **the word of the Lord**; and as many as had been arranged [by Paul] for **eternal life believed**.

Thus **the word of the Lord** spread throughout the region. But the **Judeans** incited the devout women of high standing and the leading men of the city, and stirred

up persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and drove them out of their region. So they shook the dust off their feet against them and went to Iconium. And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.

Acts 14

The same thing occurred in Iconium, where Paul and Barnabas went into the **Judean** synagogue and spoke in such a way that a great number of both **Judeans** and Greeks became believed. But the unbelieving **Judeans** stirred up the **nations** and made their core evil against the brothers. So they remained for a long time, speaking boldly for the Lord, who testified to the word of his grace by giving signs and wonders to be done through their hands. But the fullness of the city was split; some with the **Judeans**, and some with the apostles. And when an attempt was made by both **nations** and **Judeans**, with their rulers, to mistreat them and to stone them, the apostles learned of it and fled to Lystra and Derbe, cities of Lycaonia, and to the surrounding country; and there **they continued proclaiming the good news.**

In Lystra there was a man sitting who **could not use his feet and had never walked**, for he had been lame from his mother's womb.

He listened to Paul as he was speaking. And Paul, looking at him intently and seeing that he had faith to be saved,

said in a loud voice, "**Stand upright on your feet.**" **And the man sprang up and began to walk.**

When the **crowds** saw what Paul had done, they lifted up their voice in the Lycaonian language, "The gods have come down to us in human form!" Barnabas they called Zeus, and Paul they called Hermes, because he was the leader of the word. The priest of Zeus-before-the-city, brought bulls and garlands to the gates; he and the **crowds** wanted to offer sacrifice.

When the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard of it, they tore their clothes and rushed out into the **crowd**, shouting, "Men, why are you doing this? We share the same human sufferings as you, and **we bring you good news**, that you should turn from these foolish things to the living God, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and all that is in them. In past generations he allowed all the **nations** to follow their own ways; yet he has not left himself without a witness in doing good--giving you rains from heaven and fruitful seasons and satisfying you with food and your hearts with joy."

Even with these words, they scarcely restrained the **crowds** from offering sacrifice to them. But **Judeans** came there from Antioch and Iconium and persuaded the **crowds**. Then they stoned Paul and dragged him out of the city, supposing that he was dead. But when the **disciples** encircled him, he got up and went into the city.

The next day he went on with Barnabas to Derbe. After **they had proclaimed the good news** to that city and had made many **disciples**, they returned to Lystra, then on to Iconium and Antioch. There they strengthened the core of the **disciples** and encouraged them to continue in the faith, saying, "It is through many struggles that we must enter the kingdom of God."

[PRAYER AND FASTING]

And after they had appointed elders for them in each church, with prayer and fasting they entrusted them to the Lord in whom they had come to believe.

[RETURN TO SYRIAN ANTIOCH]

Then they passed through Pisidia and came to Pamphylia. When they had spoken the word in Perga, they went down to Attalia. From there they sailed back to Antioch, where they had been commended to the grace of God for the work that they had completed. When they arrived, they called the church together and related all that God had done with them, and how he had opened a door of faith for the **nations**. And they stayed there with the **disciples** for some time.