

Jesus Christ's work through the Apostles to the Uttermost

Paul's first missionary Journey

".... and ye shall be witness unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judae'a, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." Acts 1:8

Introduction: We have arrived in the last major division of the book of Acts. From Chapters 13 – 28 deal with Paul's missionary journeys. These chapters deal with the spread of the Gospel to the uttermost. From these chapters spring much of the letters, which are called epistles in the New Testament. We will see in this chapter Paul and Barnabas are set apart by God, and ordained or formerly recognized as being appointed for this work of spreading the Gospel to the areas beyond Antioch. Specifically, Paul would be the missionary to the Gentile populaces.

I. The Selection 1-4

A. List of Men 1

1. Barnabas – Son of Consolation
2. Simeon (Niger) – Niger is Latin meaning Black
3. Lucius of Cyrene – **Romans 16:21** One of Paul's kinsmen, Could possibly be the Cyrene that carried Jesus' cross **Mark 15:21**
4. Manaen – Not mentioned anywhere else in the NT, but notice his testimony
 - a. *"which had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch"*
 - b. That would have been Herod Antipas based on the term tetrarch. But Manaen would have given up his connection with that family. (Possibly foster Brother)
 - c. **Luke 3:1** Tetrarchy – An Area comprising one-fourth of a larger division
5. Saul

B. Functions as "*prophets and teachers*" 1

1. **Ephesians 4:11- 13** *And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith,*

and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:

2. We all have differing functions within the local NT Church

3. **1 Corinthians 12:1-12 / Romans 12:6-8** Spiritual Gifts

4. **Matthew 25:15** Talents – In this parable “talents” refers to a large sum of money, however the word talents has been retained in our English language to refer to abilities or gifts of men.

C. Calling of the Lord 2

1. “As they ministered”

2. “Fasted”

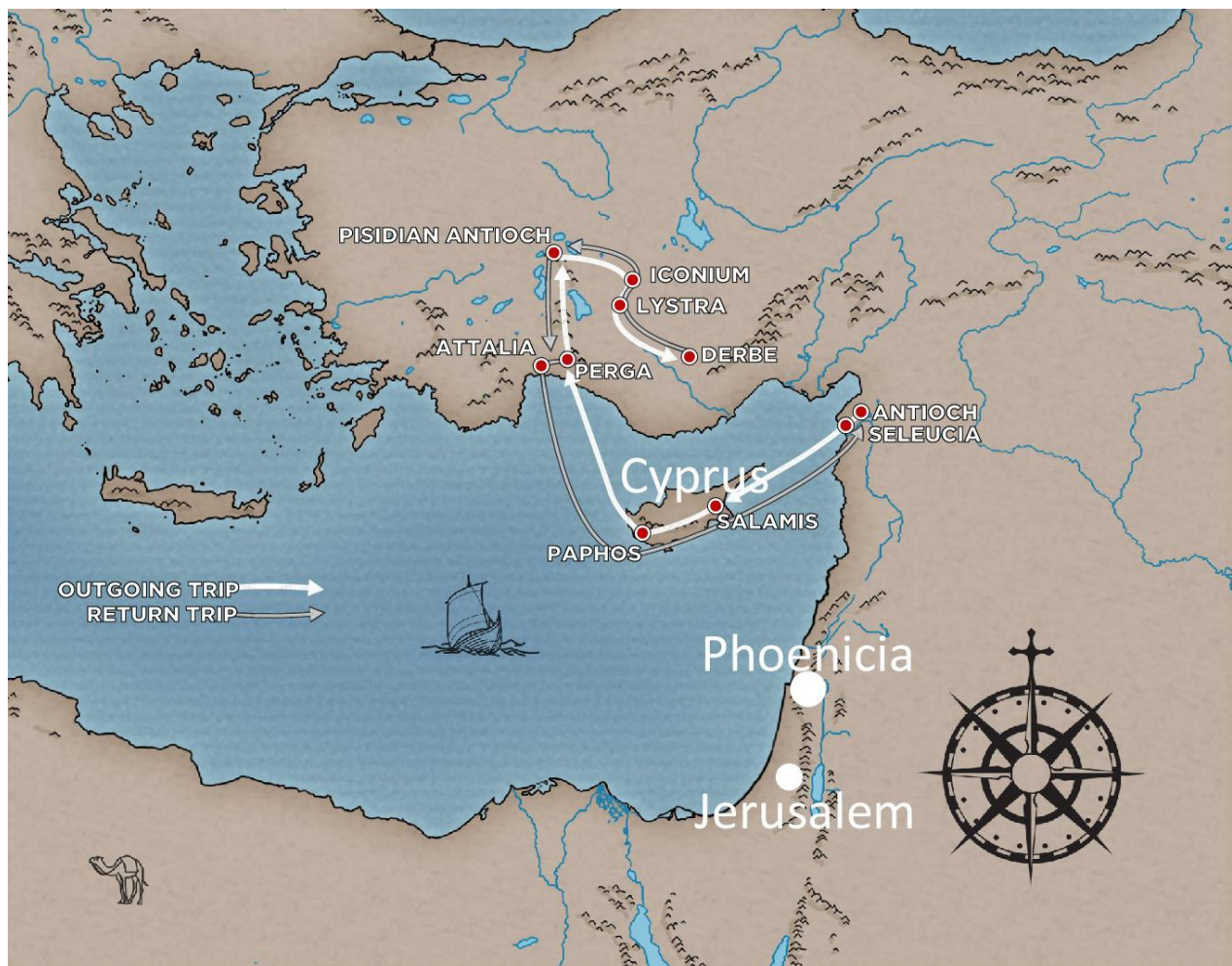
3. “Holy Ghost”

4. The church did not call these men, God did.

D. **Ordination of Men 3** - “And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid their hands on them, they sent them away.”

E. **Obedience to the calling** – “So they, being sent forth by the Holy Ghost, departed...”

II. The Direction 4-6



A. **Seleucia 4**

B. **Cyprus 4**

C. **Salamis 5**

1. *“they preached the word of God in the synagogues of the Jews: and they had also John to their minister.*

D. **Paphos 6**

III. The Presentation 6-12

A. **Sorcerer** – Greek: magus – magician 6

1. A false Prophet – a man who pretended to be inspired

2. Bar-Jesus – “Bar” means son, Son of Jesus

B. **Sergius Paulus 7**

1. *“prudent man”* – practically wise, cautious, careful

2. *“desired to hear the word of God”*

3. Wouldn't it be great if we make such an impact in the city that city officials are calling upon us to hear the word of God?

C. **Elymas 8** – Arabic word which means “the sorcerer” resisted them

D. He desire was to turn the deputy away from the way, probably for some form of gain, if the man were to be converted things would change. As it is today with much of the people withstanding the churches across America do not desire a change.

E. **Notice the name change 9**

1. This is the last time you will find him referenced as Saul

2. Paul is a Roman name, whereas Saul is Hebrew

3. Paul means – little in stature

F. **Paul gives light to this man's “Sorcery” 10**

1. *“full of all subtilty”, “mischief”*- denotes deceit and fraud, acting

2. Child of the devil – **John 8:44**

3. *“Enemy of all righteousness”* – Wicked living naturally opposes the truth

4. Apparently he was slandering the truth Paul and Barnabas were giving

5. Judgement fell 11 – 12

IV. The Intention 12-43

A. They went from Paphos to Perga 13

1. John Mark departs from them
2. This will become a source of contention between Paul and Barnabas

later. **Acts 15:58**

B. They travel from Perga to Antioch of Pisidia 14

1. *“and went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day”*

C. *“Ye men and brethren, if ye have any word of exhortation for the people, say on.”* 15 This would have been customary seeing they were Jews and not from that area.

D. Paul’s Address

1. Earnest desire to see his own countrymen saved **Romans 9:1-3**
2. Paul covers much of the OT
 - a. Exodus from Egypt – God Exodus
 - b. Suffered the people for forty years – Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, God’s grace
 - c. Gave them the land of Canaan – Joshua God’s provision
 - d. Judges Israel for 450 Years – Judges
 - e. Samuel the Prophet – 1 and 2 Samuel
 - f. King Saul – 1 Samuel
 - g. King David – 1 Samuel and 2 Samuel
 - h. Jesus of the Lineage of David
 - i. John the Baptist’s testimony
3. Paul then turns to the Gospel 26-31
 - a. Death, Burial, Resurrection of Jesus
4. Paul shows the Jewish listeners the fulfillment of scripture 33-35
 - a. **Psalm 2:7** *I will declare the decree: the LORD hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee.*
 - b. **Isaiah 55:3** *Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David.*
 - c. **Psalm 16:10** *For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.*

5. *“Be it known unto you therefore, men and brethren, that through this man is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins: And by him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses.”* 38-39

6. Paul closes with the warning of being hardened to the truth 40-41

7. We see early acceptance of the Gentiles 42-43

V. The Rejection 44-47

A. *“whole city together to hear the word of God.”*44

B. Jews opposed by contradicting and blaspheming 45

C. They simply *“judged themselves unworthy of everlasting life”* 46

D. *“I have set thee to be a light of the Gentiles, that thou shouldest be for salvation unto the ends of the earth.”* 47

VI. The Reception 47-50

A. **Gentiles first heard 48**

B. **Gentiles Second received “they were glad”**

C. **Gentiles Third rejoiced “glorified the word of the Lord”**

D. *“and as many as were ordained to eternal life believed”*- Speaks of the mystery of God’s drawing through the Holy Spirit and mans response.

E. **The Gospel spread throughout the region 49**

F. **Persecution ensued 50**

VII. The Continuation 51-52

A. **They went onto Iconium 51**

B. **They were filled with Joy 52**

C. **They were filled with the Holy Ghost 52**