

Acts 13:13-49 - “Antioch of Pisidia”
January 31, 2021 - Outline, Map, and Scripture

OUTLINE

I. Discuss Paul and Barnabas’s visit to the synagogue in Pisidian Antioch in Acts 13:13-15.

- The scene moves north from Cyprus (see map below): Perga, then another Antioch
- Some records: 16-17 different cities named Antioch in Roman Empire
- John Mark leaves and returns to Jerusalem (remember this for later in Acts)
- Go to synagogue; as visiting teachers, asked to say a few words
- Paul and Barnabas target the local synagogue as their first stop in Pisidian Antioch. Why do you think they did so? What advantages do they have in communicating with a synagogue crowd versus a purely Gentile crowd? What disadvantages?*

II. Discuss Paul’s sermon at the synagogue in Acts 13:16-41.

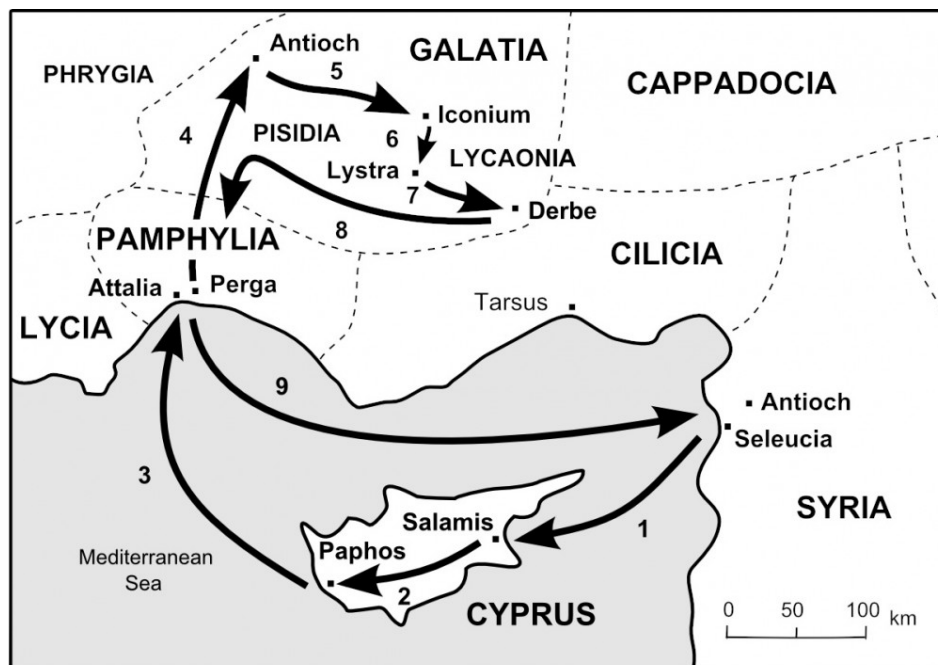
- Perhaps the longest example of Paul’s public preaching in Acts
- Identifies his audience (Jews and God-fearing Gentiles), then move through a clear plot
- First walks through the story of the Old Testament (appropriate for Jews!)
- Then make the connection with Jesus in the line of David and the Messiah
- Next, tells the story of Jesus’ life, death, and resurrection, connecting it to prophecy
- Concludes with a call to respond in faith for forgiveness and for being declared in right standing with God
- Helpful to compare this sermon with his sermon to the Athenians in Acts 17:16-34
- Paul is careful to tell the Old Testament story here. Why is it good to do so in this particular instance? How does the Old Testament connect with the New Testament, according to Paul?*
- How is the work of Jesus described here by Paul? What does Jesus provide that first century Judaism can’t? That modern American life can’t? Why do we need Jesus?*
- Some people today say to talk about forgiveness of sin is useless because no one believes they are sinners. Agree or disagree? How is forgiveness of sin interwoven with the gospel? How can we talk about Jesus and forgiveness in today’s culture?*

III. Discuss the response to Paul's sermon in Acts 13:42-49.

- Positive response to the gospel proclamation: come back next week!
- Words of discipleship and training? "... continue to rely upon the grace of God" (v. 43)
- The focus upon the Gentiles becomes clearer
- *Do presentations of the gospel always result in conversions? Why or why not? What can we count on always happening whenever the gospel is presented? Why do you think Paul hits a home run (or at least a triple) in this case?*
- *How significant is the counsel to "continue to rely upon the grace of God"? How do Christians sometimes rely upon their own efforts? How can we live by grace as we are saved by grace?*

SCRIPTURE (NIV)

13 From Paphos, Paul and his companions sailed to Perga in Pamphylia, where John left them to return to Jerusalem. **14** From Perga they went on to Pisidian Antioch. On the Sabbath they entered the synagogue and sat down. **15** After the reading from the Law and the Prophets, the leaders of the synagogue sent word to them, saying, "Brothers, if you have a word of exhortation for the people, please speak."



16 Standing up, Paul motioned with his hand and said: "Fellow Israelites and you Gentiles who worship God, listen to me! **17** The God of the people of Israel chose our ancestors; he made the people prosper during their stay in Egypt;

with mighty power he led them out of that country; **18** for about forty years he endured their conduct[a] in the wilderness; **19** and he overthrew seven nations in Canaan, giving their land to his people as their inheritance. **20** All this took about 450 years.

“After this, God gave them judges until the time of Samuel the prophet. **21** Then the people asked for a king, and he gave them Saul son of Kish, of the tribe of Benjamin, who ruled forty years. **22** After removing Saul, he made David their king. God testified concerning him: ‘I have found David son of Jesse, a man after my own heart; he will do everything I want him to do.’

23 “From this man’s descendants God has brought to Israel the Savior Jesus, as he promised. **24** Before the coming of Jesus, John preached repentance and baptism to all the people of Israel. **25** As John was completing his work, he said: ‘Who do you suppose I am? I am not the one you are looking for. But there is one coming after me whose sandals I am not worthy to untie.’

26 “Fellow children of Abraham and you God-fearing Gentiles, it is to us that this message of salvation has been sent. **27** The people of Jerusalem and their rulers did not recognize Jesus, yet in condemning him they fulfilled the words of the prophets that are read every Sabbath. **28** Though they found no proper ground for a death sentence, they asked Pilate to have him executed. **29** When they had carried out all that was written about him, they took him down from the cross and laid him in a tomb. **30** But God raised him from the dead, **31** and for many days he was seen by those who had traveled with him from Galilee to Jerusalem. They are now his witnesses to our people.

32 “We tell you the good news: What God promised our ancestors **33** he has fulfilled for us, their children, by raising up Jesus. As it is written in the second Psalm:

“‘You are my son;
today I have become your father.’[b]

34 God raised him from the dead so that he will never be subject to decay. As God has said, “‘I will give you the holy and sure blessings promised to David.’[c]

35 So it is also stated elsewhere: “‘You will not let your holy one see decay.’[d]

36 “Now when David had served God’s purpose in his own generation, he fell asleep; he was buried with his ancestors and his body decayed. **37** But the one whom God raised from the dead did not see decay.

38 “Therefore, my friends, I want you to know that through Jesus the forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you. **39** Through him everyone who believes is set free from every sin, a justification you were not able to obtain under the law of Moses. **40** Take care that what the prophets have said does not happen to you:

41 “‘Look, you scoffers,
wonder and perish,

for I am going to do something in your days
that you would never believe,
even if someone told you.’[e]”

42 As Paul and Barnabas were leaving the synagogue, the people invited them to speak further about these things on the next Sabbath. **43** When the congregation was dismissed, many of the Jews and devout converts to Judaism followed Paul and Barnabas, who talked with them and urged them to continue in the grace of God.

44 On the next Sabbath almost the whole city gathered to hear the word of the Lord. **45** When the Jews saw the crowds, they were filled with jealousy. They began to contradict what Paul was saying and heaped abuse on him.

46 Then Paul and Barnabas answered them boldly: “We had to speak the word of God to you first. Since you reject it and do not consider yourselves worthy of eternal life, we now turn to the Gentiles. **47** For this is what the Lord has commanded us:

“‘I have made you[f] a light for the Gentiles,
that you[g] may bring salvation to the ends of the earth.’[h]”

48 When the Gentiles heard this, they were glad and honored the word of the Lord; and all who were appointed for eternal life believed. **49** The word of the Lord spread through the whole region.

Footnotes

Acts 13:18 Some manuscripts *he cared for them*

Acts 13:33 Psalm 2:7

Acts 13:34 Isaiah 55:3

Acts 13:35 Psalm 16:10 (see Septuagint)

Acts 13:41 Hab. 1:5

Acts 13:47 The Greek is singular.

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Acts 13:47 Isaiah 49:6