ACTS 12: 20-25 Acts 13: 1-25

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- 1. TELL IN YOUR OWN WORDS HOW HEROD DIED?
- 1. Herod was angry with the people from Tyre and Sidon. They were seeking peace with Herod because his country was their food source.
- 2. On the appointed day Herod put on his royal apparel, took his seat on the rostrum and began delivering an address to them.

- 3. The people kept crying out, "The voice of a god and not of a man!" (Acts 12: 22)
- 4. An angel of the Lord struck him because he did not give God the glory, and he was eaten by worms and died. (Acts 12: 23)

CONTENTS

- 1. The members at the church at Antioch of Syria reached out to all and the teachers were gifted. (v. 1).
- 2. Certain prophets and teachers, while worshipping and fasting, were told by the Holy Spirit to "set apart" Barnabas and Saul (v. 2).
- 3. They fasted and prayed, laid their hands on them and sent them on their mission (v. 3).
- 4. They were led by the Holy Spirit (v. 4-5).
- 5. Their goal was to preach the message (v. 5–6).
- 6. Sergius Paulus desired to hear the Word of God (v. 7).

CONTENTS

- 7. Paul and Barnabas entered Antioch of Pisidia and preached there (v. 14–16).
- 8. Paul declared that God had been working throughout all history: God was longsuffering with the ways of Israel (and of the world) (v. 17–22).
- 9. Paul declared that God had consummated history through Jesus (v. 23-25).

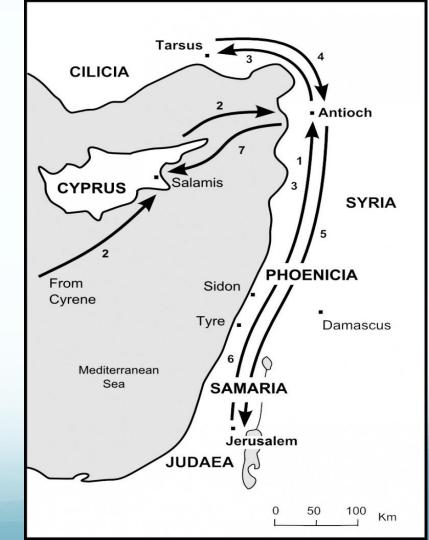
PAUL'S 1st MISSIONARY JOURNEY

- 1. Recorded in Acts 13: 1 to Acts 14: 28
- 2. The time of this journey was approximately 2 years.
- 3. The time period was 45-47 AD
- 4. The total miles traveled was approximately 1,235 miles.



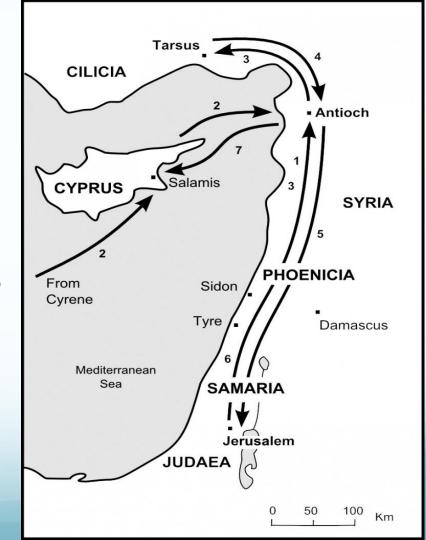
The church at Antioch of Syria

- 1. Christians were scattered because of the persecution that occurred in connection with Stephen. (Acts 11: 19)
- 2. Men of Cyprus and Cyrene went to Antioch and preached Jesus. (Acts 11: 20-21)
- 3. The news reached the church at Jerusalem. They sent Barnabas to Antioch. (Acts 11: 22). Barnabas left for Tarsus looking for Saul. (Acts 11: 25)
- 4. Barnabas and Saul traveled back to Antioch. (Acts 11: 26)



The church at Antioch of Syria

- 5. Agabus, a prophet, came from Jerusalem to Antioch and indicated by the Spirit there would be a great famine. The church at Antioch sent Barnabas and Saul to the elders in Judea with a contribution for relief of the brethren. (Acts 11: 27-30).
- 6. Barnabas and Saul returned to Antioch to continue to teach. (Acts 13: 1)
- 7. While they were ministering to the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." (Acts 13: 2)



We can learn many things from Paul's first missionary journey:

- 1. How God called individuals to become preachers and teachers of the Gospel.
- 2. The importance of having a supportive home church.
- 3. The helpfulness of having partners in preaching the Word.

We can learn many things from Paul's first missionary journey:

- 4. Realistic expectations that not everyone will accept the gospel message.
- 5. The need to raise up leaders in groups of new believers and to check in on them periodically.
- 6. The joy of sharing what God has done by reporting back to those who have prayed and supported your efforts.

The city of Antioch

A. The New Testament lists two Antiochs.

1. Antioch in Syria.

2. Antioch of Pisidia.

B. History mentions a total of sixteen Antiochs existing at the same time.

The city of Antioch of Syria

- C. The approximate site for the city was selected by Alexander the Great. After Alexander the Great's death in 323 B.C., Seleucus became the ruler of Syria.
- D. Antioch was founded in 301 B.C. by Seleucus Nicator, ruler of Syria, and it was one of sixteen cities he named after his father.
- E. Seleucus Nicator also constructed Antioch's port, Seleucia, 16 miles down the Orontes River on the Mediterranean Sea, which he named after himself.

The city of Antioch of Syria

- F. Under Roman rule, Antioch was the capital of Syria.
- G. In many ways it was the most impressive city in the Middle East.
- Antioch of Syria was the crossroads of the East and West.
 Antioch of Syria was a bustling commercial
 - 2. Antioch of Syria was a bustling commercia center.
 - 3. Antioch of Syria was "no mean rival of Rome in splendor".

THE CHURCH AT ANTIOCH OF SYRIA

It was the first recorded city to have both Jewish and Gentile Christians.

It was the first recorded city to send out missionaries.

It was the first recorded city to provide relief for another congregation.

It was the first city in which followers of Christ were called "Christians."

It was in Antioch that:

- a. Paul challenged Peter to his face. (Gal. 2: 11-16)
- b. The controversy over circumcision stirred to the surface. (Acts 15: 1-2)
- c. Paul started his missionary journeys.

2. WHO WAS AT THE CHURCH AT ANTIOCH OF SYRIA?

Acts 12: 1

1 Now there were at Antioch, in the church that was *there*, **prophets and teachers**: **Barnabas**, and **Simeon** who **was called Niger**, and **Lucius of Cyrene**, and **Manaen who had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch**, and **Saul**.

Barnabas was a wealthy Cyprian, a man born and reared on the island of Cyprus. (Acts 4: 36-37)

Simeon or Niger: the name "Niger" means black, referring to the complexion of his skin. He was probably from Africa. The name is also a Roman name which shows that he moved about in Roman society

<u>Lucius of Cyrene</u> was one of the poor persecuted believers who had fled to Antioch for safety. If so, he was one of the founders of this church. When he arrived in Antioch, he and the others began to share Christ immediately (Acts 11:19–20).

Manaen was of the higher class of society, being a foster brother to Herod Antipas. This is the Herod who had tried Jesus and murdered John the Baptist.

Saul of Tarsus was devoted to God as a Jew. He is mentioned last as though he was considered least important among the leaders.

Saul's deep love for the Lord and his driving commitment to the Lord's cause would soon lead God to use Saul beyond imagination.

3. WHAT DID THE HOLY SPIRIT REQUIRE FROM THE CHURCH AT ANTIOCH?

Acts 13: 2

2 While they were ministering to the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them."

4. WHERE ELSE IN ACTS DID WE ALREADY SEE THAT THE HOLY SPIRIT WAS WORKING IN THE LIVES OF MEN?

Acts 2: 3-4

- **3** And there appeared to them tongues as of fire distributing themselves, and they rested on each one of them.
- 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance.

4. WHERE ELSE IN ACTS DID WE ALREADY SEE THAT THE HOLY SPIRIT WAS WORKING IN THE LIVES OF MEN?

Acts 10: 19-20

- 19 While Peter was reflecting on the vision, the Spirit said to him, "Behold, three men are looking for you. 20 "But get up, go downstairs and accompany them without misgivings, for I have sent them Myself."
- Acts 10: 44-45
- 44 While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who
- 45 All the circumcised believers who came with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also.

22

5. HOW DID THE CHURCH PREPARE BARNABAS AND SAUL FOR THEIR JOURNEY?

ACTS 13: 3-4

- 3 Then, when they had <u>fasted</u> and <u>prayed</u> and <u>laid their hands on them</u>, they <u>sent</u> them away.
- 4 So, being sent out by the Holy Spirit, they went down to Seleucia and from there they sailed to Cyprus.

6. WHO ACCOMPANIED BARNABAS AND SAUL?

Acts 13: 5

5 When they reached Salamis, they *began* to proclaim the word of God in the synagogues of the Jews; and they also had **John** as their helper.

JOHN MARK

7. WHAT WERE THE EVENTS THAT LED TO PAUL'S FIRST RECORDED MIRACLE?

- 1. In Salamis they preached in the synagogues of the Jews.
- 2. Sergius Paulus, the deputy of the country (proconsul), called for Barnabas and Saul, desiring to heard the word of God.
- 3. Elymas had sought to turn Sergius Paulus away from the faith.

25

7. WHAT WERE THE EVENTS THAT LED TO PAUL'S FIRST RECORDED MIRACLE? "Soul who were also known as Doul filled with

- 4. "Saul, who was also known as Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit..." (Acts 13: 9).
- 5. Paul struck the Jewish false prophet, and sorcerer, (Bar-Jesus [v. 6], Elymas {v. 8}) with blindness for a season. (Acts 11: 11)
- 6. "The proconsul believed when he saw what had happened, being amazed at the teaching of the Lord." (Acts 13: 12).

8. WHAT HAPPENED WHEN PAUL AND HIS COMPANIONS PUT OUT TO SEA FROM PAPHOS?

Acts 13: 13

13 Now Paul and his companions put out to sea from Paphos and came to Perga in Pamphylia; but John left them and returned to Jerusalem.

John left them and returned to Jerusalem.

9. COMPARE PAUL'S SERMON (ACTS 13) TO PETER'S SERMON (ACTS 2) AND STEPHEN'S DEFENSE BEFORE THE SANHEDRIN (ACTS 7).

Paul's 1st recorded sermon at Antioch in Pisidia

Acts 13: 14-25

The sermon contained:

1. The providential dealings of God with Israel which culminated in the coming of the Savior, Jesus Christ.