

Acts of the Apostles 11:18-30 _ Lesson 29

From Jerusalem to Antioch

1. Acts 11:19-21 – The Lord Received in Antioch (Syria)

- a. The state of the Pentecost church: 1) scattered, 2) preaching, 3) to Jews only
- b. 11:20 – “and” or “but” (warning: beware subtle changes, don’t change a word)
- c. 11:20 narrows 11:19 (1) Jews from Cyprus/Cyrene (2) preaching (3) to Grecians
- d. What is a Grecian? “*far*” - Joel 3:6, Grecian vs. Hebrews Acts 6:1, Jews – Acts 9:29
 - i. Acts 2:8-11 – The issue is where they’re from (home) and language
 - ii. To scattered and Grecians the Hebrew epistles are written – Jam 1:1, 1Pet
- e. The point is not Grecian or Greek or Gentile, but → “a great number” in Antioch
- f. Where are they? Syria. Who was first was being reversed - Mark 7:26-27

2. Acts 11:22-24 – Barnabas Sent to Antioch

- a. “*come unto the ears*” – They are hearing many things lately – Gal 1:23, Acts 11:1
- b. “*go as far as Antioch*” – why not farther? It was not their mission, but... Acts 22:21
- c. “*sent forth Barnabas*” – Why Barnabas? He is faithful and full - Acts 4:33-37, 11:24
 - i. He is not one of the twelve, a Grecian, son of consolation, Acts 9:27, 15:31
 - ii. Barnabas is the mediating man, mentioned more than Saul in Acts 1-15
- d. “*the grace of God*” – The Grecians were not first in line, not Hebrew of Hebrews
 - i. “*was glad*” – Why would he not be? These people believed in the Lord.
 - ii. “*cleave unto the Lord*” – He says, “*hold on*”, what else could they cleave to?
 - iii. There may be issues among the Grecians w/ circumcision, law, kingdom questions, what happened to Jerusalem, why didn’t they turn to the Lord...

3. Acts 11:25-26 – Saul Teaches at Antioch

- a. Barnabas went farther and sought out Saul... why Saul?
 - i. Barnabas knew of Saul’s commission/ apostleship from the Lord – Acts 9:27
 - ii. They may have been uncircumcised – Acts 16:1-3
 - iii. It was outside Israel’s kingdom – Gentile land, Paul’s jurisdiction–Rom 11:13
 - iv. Paul’s authority placed in Antioch, not Peter’s – Gal 2:9-13
 - v. Peter’s authority is being replaced with Paul’s by the Holy Ghost.
 - vi. Antioch becomes a hub, with many Gentiles not under the law –Acts 15:23
 - vii. Peter and Paul’s people were not to be at odds – Rom 14-15, 1Cor 8-10, etc.
- b. “*a whole year*” – and more later... whose foundation was laid? Saul’s –1Cor 3:10-11
- c. “*called Christians first*” – significantly not in Israel, not children of the prophets.

4. Acts 11:27-30 – From Jerusalem to Antioch

- a. Every chapter Acts 8-15 is another step God takes away from the kingdom in Jerusalem, the authority of the 12 apostles, and away from Israel
- b. Agabus does not prophecy kingdom light in Jerusalem, but dearth and darkness
- c. Judaea must receive help from the abundant grace in Antioch by Paul’s hand