

# Acts of the Apostles 13:1-13 \_\_ Lesson 32

## *Paul Blinds a Jew While a Gentile Believes*

### 1. Acts 13:1-5 – The Holy Ghost Sends Saul

- a. Certain prophets and teachers in Antioch – See Acts 11:27
  - i. It was established – the first called a church we read out of Israel/Jerusalem
  - ii. Barnabas: we know Acts 4; Simeon: Luke 2:25 a prophet? Lucius: Rom 16:21? Manaen: renown politically... and Saul. (fun fact: who is missing?)
- b. “*Holy Ghost said*” – Christ spoke in Acts 9, now the Holy Ghost about his ordination
- c. “*I have called them*” – Was it the work these Jewish prophets were doing? No.
- d. “*sent forth*” – The definition of an apostle. Sent for what? Acts 9:15, 22:21, 26:16-21
  - i. This may help with Eph 3:5 “apostles and prophets” – Acts 14:14
  - ii. John Mark went along – being the same in Acts 12:12 and in Acts 15
- e. We start to travel with Saul for the rest of the Acts of the Holy Ghost filled Apostles
- f. These journeys are not mere “missionary” journeys, but apostolic, dispensational.
- g. What did they preach? The word of God. Where? Synagogues of the Jews. Why?
  - i. 1) To be informed ( to be without excuse) – Rom 11:32
  - ii. 2) For them to believe – Rom 9:1-4, 10:1
  - iii. 3) To go to Gentiles w/o robbing Israel’s covenants – Rom 11:11, 11:25

### 2. Acts 13:6-12 – A Tale of Two Pauls

- a. Bar-Jesus (son of Savior) – Elymas (sorcerer) – Peter condemns a sorcerer in Acts 8
- b. Sergius Paulus would have been a Roman official desiring to hear the word of God
  - i. Paulus was being turned away from truth/faith by the Jewish advisor
  - ii. Rom 2:19 – Israel was supposed to be a guide to the blind
- c. Paul filled with the Holy Ghost curses the Jewish false prophet – Gal 1:7-9
- d. Paul’s first miracle – blinding a Jew by the power of the Holy Ghost.
- e. Jesus healed the blind in Israel, preaching kingdom come – Isa 29:18, 35:5, 42:6-7
- f. God does punish by blindness in the Bible – Gen 19:11, Deu 28:28
  - i. Blind Jews could not be priests in Israel – Lev 21:17-18
  - ii. Jesus speaks of blinding those who claim to see (sorcerers) John 9:39
- g. When Israel rejects God (in Christ), they get blinded – John 12:40, Isa 29:10, 6:9-10
  - i. Rom 11:7 – The election received it and the rest were blinded
  - ii. Part of Paul’s message is the blindness of Israel – Rom 11:25
- h. Rom 11:11 – A Gentile that was saved because a Jew was blinded
  - i. This is a mystery about how this could be possible.
- i. Acts 13:13 – John departs to Jerusalem after this event (Acts 15:38)