

Acts of the Apostles 13:14-52 _ Lesson 33

Paul Turns to the Gentiles

1. Acts 13:9-14 – Review

- a. What about Israel as a channel of blessing? Rom 11:7-8
- b. A Jew blinded “for a season” matches Rom 11:25 – “blindness in part”
- c. If Israel required pure grace to be saved, then the mystery had to be revealed first
- d. Synagogues – Never mentioned in Paul’s thirteen epistles to the body of Christ

2. Acts 13:15-26 – God’s Gracious Provision

- a. v15 – “after the law and prophets” an exhortation by the apostle of grace
- b. v16, 26, 39, 42 - Paul’s audience included Gentiles! (cf. Acts 2:14, 3:25, 10:36, 13:27)
- c. God chose, brought, suffered, gave land, promises, judges, kings, a Saviour!
- d. v22 – David was a man after his own heart – 1 Sam 13:14
- e. v24 – John preached baptism of repentance, but he was not the man – Mk 1:14
- f. v26 – “*this salvation sent*” – Salvation that was promised, not the gospel yet
 - i. Salvation is the same, the gospel terms (offer) is what differs

3. Acts 13:27-37 – Christ’s Death, Burial, Resurrection According to the Scriptures

- a. v27-29 – Jerusalem’s rejection of Christ (not an acceptance of him)
- b. v28 – He was innocent, but they killed him anyway in ignorance fulfilling scriptures
 - i. They did not want the gracious provision of God in Christ – John 19:15
- c. v32-33 – The promise of resurrection is now fulfilled, “*this day*” – Ps 2:7
- d. v34-37 – David’s sure mercies in Christ – Ps 89:28, 35-37, Jer 33:20-21, Isa 55:3

4. Acts 13:38-41 – The Gospel Offer and Warning

- a. Paul does not say Mk 1:15 nor Acts 2:38, but something new to new people
- b. v39 – “*all that believe*” – no works included here, “justified from all things”
- c. How this could be is explained in Paul’s epistles Romans, Galatians
- d. v40-41 – Paul’s warning that they do not become like those rejecting God Hab 1:5

5. Acts 13:42-52 – Jewish Reaction, Opposition, Persecution

- a. v43 – “grace of God” – a phrase only used in Acts in connection with Paul
- b. v45 – “filled with envy” – due to the Gentile city coming together
- c. v46 – “it was necessary” – due to the promises made to Israel... “but...”!
 - i. Something has changed. Paul was never told to go to Jew first.
 - ii. “we turn to the Gentiles” – something God commanded them to do, and that aligned with God’s eternal purpose – Isa 49:6
- d. v47 – “*when Gentiles heard... there were... ordained to eternal life*” – Rom 10:17
 - i. The ordaining is not Calvin, it is those to whom salvation was sent – Gentiles
- e. v50 - The persecutions here in Antioch are mentioned in memory to 2 Tim 3:11
- f. v51-52 – The conclusion: Gentiles receive grace gladly despite the Jews’ rejection