

Acts 13.13 – 14.7

Step Into 1st Cross-Cultural Mission > launched from church in Antioch
 Holy Spirit called Barnabas & Saul: Church confirmed w Prayers & Support
 Sailed across Med > Island CYPRUS > Walked & Preached East to West

Sailed from Paphos/Cyprus > Perga (today ANTALYA) – 75,000 people

Traveled 150 miles North > climbed 3600 feet over TAURUS Mtns

Pisidian Antioch (16 Antioch's!) Surrounding Popl 100k / Many Jews

Strategy: Plant Churches in Key Cities > they Evangelize their Region

v. 15 After the reading from the Law and the Prophets, the rulers of the synagogue sent a message to them, saying, “Brothers, if you have any word of encouragement for the people, say it.”

REASON Traveled w Sermon Notes Bible in UGANDA esp Sundays

Paul's 1st Sermon in Bible > Newly-minted Apostle of Jesus to Gentiles

Good News to JEW First > GENTILE Seekers in back row of Synagogue

Luke – HIGHLIGHT Reel know His Mission Method

1. Preached Bible to Jews – It was their Standard of Truth

15 “after reading from Law & prophets...any word of encouragement?”

Expected Exposition – Explain & Apply Hebrew Scriptures / God's Word

They ASKED for It! Offers drink from FIRE Hose! – God's Greatest Hits!

Great God does Great Things thru Normal Abe, Moses, Saul, Sam, David

27 For those who live in Jerusalem and their rulers, because they did not recognize him nor understand **the utterances of the prophets**

Dead Prophets were Speaking > Eternal God Preaching His Living Word

If I am Preaching Scripture > more than Blair Blowing Smoke > God

Power of Billy Graham's preaching “The Bible says!” / God Speaking

32 we bring you the good news that what God promised to the fathers,

43 they spoke with them, urged them to continue in the grace of God.

46 Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly, saying, “It was necessary that the word of God be spoken first to you.

Some REJECTED Scripture > They did not Change their Method

48 Gentiles heard this, began rejoicing & glorifying the word of the Lord

49 the word of the Lord was spreading throughout the whole region.

14.1 Now at Iconium they entered together into the Jewish synagogue and spoke in such a way that a great number of both Jews and Greeks believed.

14.6 fled to Lystra and Derbe, cities of Lycaonia, and to the surrounding country, and there they continued to preach the gospel.

IMPORTANT Point > Sermon in Lystra & Athens NO Scripture

Not Scripture Sympathetic – Covenant Jews – Ready for Bible

Gentiles > “the Bible says!” – So What? Don’t Believe your Magic Book!

Message to Gentiles not based on COVENANT but on CREATION

Gospel NOT Jewish – Gospel Not BEGIN at SINAI, began in EDEN

1st Preacher of Gospel: God to Serpent: Fatal Warning – Crushed Head

Father of Faith GENTILE Named Abram / became Father of Jews too

Pentecost “proclaiming wonders of God in ALL languages”

Paul models Relevant Gospel Ministry to Jew AND Gentile

2. Proclaimed: Jesus is only Hero --- in Covenant AND Creation!

Paul water-skis over the White Caps of 2000 yrs of Israel’s History

17 God of this people Israel chose our fathers & made the people great their stay in the land of Egypt...40 years he put up w them in wilderness

19 Canaan, he gave them their land as an inheritance.

20 he gave them judges until Samuel the prophet

22 he raised up David to be their king

Does NOT get into Weeds of Bad Behavior > emph on God’s MERCY

Hurries thru Cast of Supporting Actors to put SPOTLIGHT on the STAR

Glorious God of Eternal Covenant puts Sandals On > Baptizer Not Untie

John LAST Old Covenant Prophet > Behold, Lamb of God has COME!

23 Of this man's offspring God brought to Israel a Savior, promised Jesus!

Hebrew Scriptures foundation New Testament > Promise / Fulfillment

16 X's Paul names GOD – He is Main Actor in Acts, Scripture, Universe

28 And though they found in him no guilt worthy of death, they asked Pilate to have him executed. And when they had carried out all that was written of him, they took him down from the tree and laid him in a tomb. But God raised him from the dead

TESTIMONY of EYEWITNESSES & Promises of Hebrew Scriptures

If Jesus still DEAD we have NO HOPE, FORGIVENESS, SALVATION

38 Let it be known...that through this man forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you, and by him everyone who believes is freed from everything from which you could not be freed by the law of Moses.

God FORGIVES our Sins & Gives us RIGHTEOUSNESS in Christ

The alternatives are stark – faith in Christ and hence forgiveness, God declaring us righteous; or a vain attempt at self-salvation through observing the law, leading to condemnation. Bruce Milne

Luke / Acts Summarizes > Days, Months, Years of Apostolic Mission

Heaven will be Wonderful telling Details – People, Stories, God's Mercies

Limited Parchment: Acts, Insp. of H.Spirit, Msg Whole Church, All Time

So, Luke & HS Major on Majors: Keys to Mission from 1st to Final C

1. Preach Bible & 2. Jesus is only Hero

3. Jesus is the Forever Fork in Road

When Jesus enters Convo: Sure to get REACTION – Strong, Passionate

Ch 14 – 97 miles Down the Road ICONIUM > Jesus is Fork in Road

14.4 people of the city were divided / 14.7 they continued to preach gospel

26 “Brothers, sons of the family of Abraham, and those among you who fear God, to us has been sent the message of this salvation.

NOT Assume in Bakery UR Cookie – or in Synagogue TRUE Believer

Forgiveness WON of us by Jesus / Crucified for our Propitiation Resurrected for our

Justification / Present with us by Holy Spirit

Must REPENT & Receive this Good News > Turn from Sin, Trust Savior

NOT call to BE or DO or LIVE the Gospel – that is not Good News

Impossible Standard Sinners – Cannot Save our Selves – Only God Saves

Every Apostolic sermon has a WELCOME and a WARNING

Not WARM & Fuzzy Ending to Sermon > ref to Prophet Habakkuk

41“Look, you scoffers, be astounded and perish; for I am doing a work in your days, a work that you will not believe, even if one tells it to you.”

Habakkuk: God uses GENTILES to Discipline JEWS

Paul: God using JEWS to Draw GENTILES > Magnetism of JESUS

STAND On Him or STUMBLE Over Him > HE is the GOOD NEWS!

End of Chapter 13 – Tumbling Washing Machine – Responses to GOD

42 As they went out, the people begged that these things might be told them the next Sabbath.

44 next Sabbath almost the whole city gathered to hear word of the Lord.

Couple Sundays ago Kohala stood Akoni Pule Hwy > Honor Champions

Great! Proud Day! Young Men – Skills, Hard Work, Good Luck, Victory

Do we Pray KOHALA Captured JOY of God’s Champion – Lord Jesus X

47 “Light for the Gentiles...He bring salvation to the ends of the earth”

48 when the Gentiles heard this, they began rejoicing and glorifying the word of the Lord, and as many as were appointed to eternal life believed.

49 And the word of the Lord was spreading throughout the whole region.

50 But the Jews incited the devout women of high standing and the leading men of the city, stirred up persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and drove them out of their district.

51 But they shook off the dust from their feet against them and went to Iconium.

52 And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.

Gospel Travel – Antioch to port of Seleucia – 16 miles

Ship from Seleucia across to Salamis on Cyprus – 130 miles

East to West across Cyprus – Salamis to Paphos – 90 miles

Ship from Paphos to Perga in Pamphylia (TURKEY) – 185 miles

Perga to Pisidian Antioch – 150 miles

Pisidian Antioch to Iconium – 100 miles

Days – Weeks – Months – People – Synagogues – Hardship – Pain

Something we TODAY can Hardly Imagine the STRUGGLES

13.13 John left them & returned to Jerusalem: Barnabas COUSIN/Nephew

Mysterious WHY, WHEN, HOW? “that’s it! I am OUTTA here!!”

Only Speculate made him Parachute Out! – Ask him One Day

40 yrs of Mission Work – Ones First to Leave “gonna stay forever!!”

Ch 15 Paul & Barnabas SHARP Disagreement whether take Mark along

Luke knew Story – Many of 1st Readers knew BACKSTORY

ACTS Story of Redemption > Macro in Sweeping Mission Travels

Micro in Kid who Quits – Causes Trouble – Splits this Power-Team

SAD Story – 2000 yrs of Xtian History – too Many Fights & Splits

God plays Long Game – Not willing Any Should Perish > Repentance

“Get Mark and bring him with you, for he is very useful to me for ministry” 2 Timothy 4.11

Maybe YOU Need to Step back into Place of Kingdom USEFULNESS

Maybe YOU Need to Realize God calling you to Impact your Generation

Maybe YOU Need to be Praying for WHOLE City to Come to Jesus

On-Going Story – Acts Written – Gospel Work Continues

Ends of Earth to the End of the Age

52 And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.

Congregational Prayer

Praise the Lord! Blessed is the man who fears the Lord, who greatly delights in his commandments! His offspring will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed. Wealth and riches are in his house, and his righteousness endures forever. Light dawns in the darkness for the upright; he is gracious, merciful, and righteous. It is well with the man who deals generously and lends; who conducts his affairs with justice. For the righteous will never be moved; he will be remembered forever. He is not afraid of bad news; his heart is firm, trusting in the Lord. His heart is steady; he will not be afraid, until he looks in triumph on his adversaries.

Ask the Lord to Remove your Fears and Restore your Trust in Him

“I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom: preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching. For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths. As for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry. (2 Timothy 4.1-5) Amen and amen!