

Witnesses to Christ
Studies in the Acts of the Apostles

The Appointment of God
Lesson 11
Acts 13

Trinity Bible Church Sunday School
March 13, 2016

Outline – Acts 1:8

- ▶ Witnesses in Jerusalem (1-7)
 - Witnesses to Jesus Christ
 - Witnesses by the power of the Holy Spirit
- ▶ Witnesses in all Judea and Samaria (8-12)
- ▶ Witnesses to the remotest part of the earth (13-28)

A Major Transition

- ▶ Israel set aside
- ▶ The Law of Moses ended
- ▶ The Person and Work of Christ unveiled
 - Christ in the flesh; death and resurrection
 - Same message with new clarity: the just shall live by faith
- ▶ The power of the Holy Spirit unleashed
 - Not new – no spiritual life without the Spirit (Rom 8:8-11)
 - New power – (John 14:17; 26; 15:26; 16:7-14)

Acts 1-12 – Review

▶ Part 1 – Acts 1-7

- The coming of the Holy Spirit
- Powerful preaching; miraculous signs
- Opposition – persecution and death
- The believing community takes form

▶ Part 2 – Acts 8-12

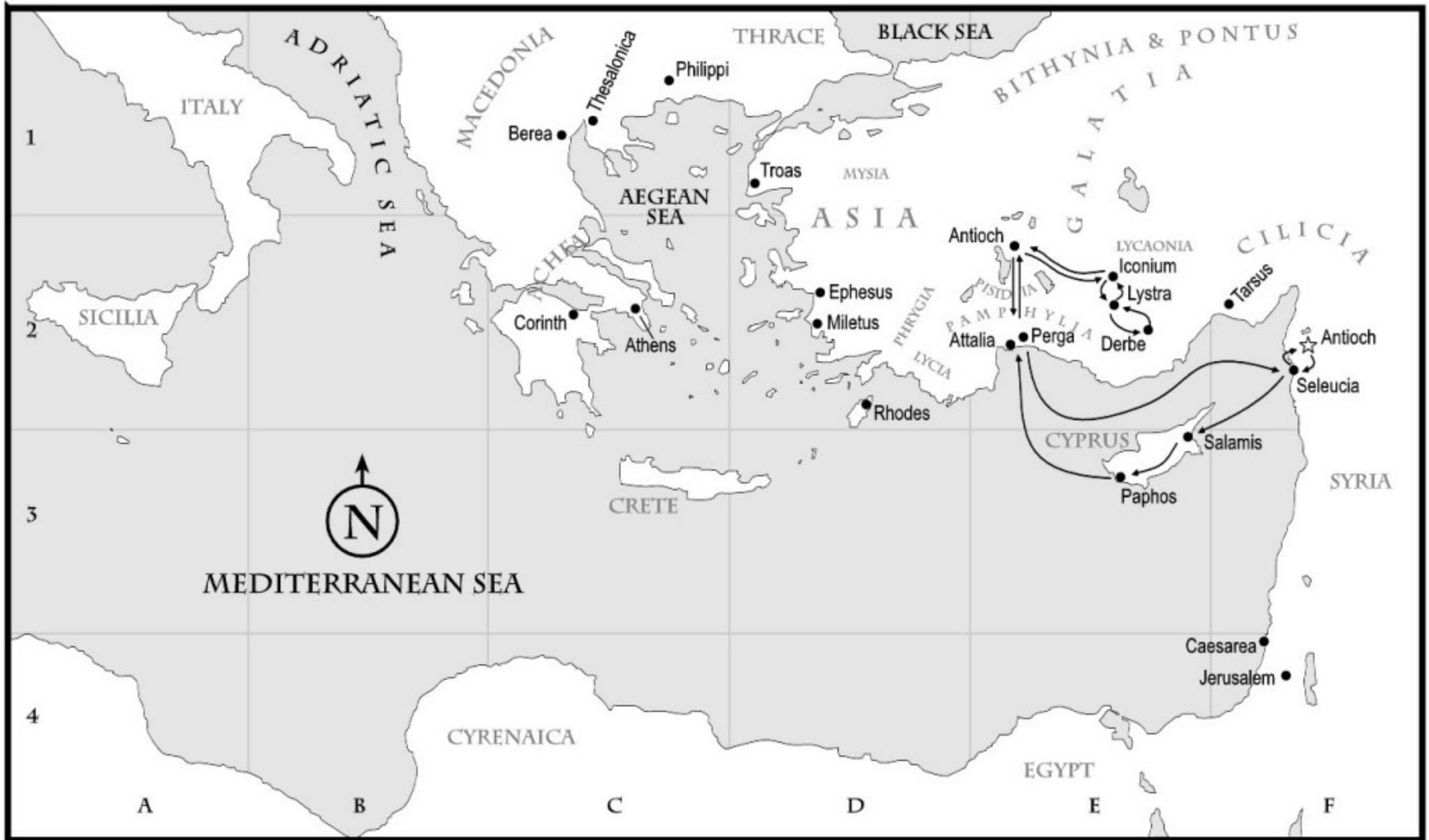
- Persecution drives believers from Jerusalem
- Samaria, Ethiopian eunuch, Saul, Cornelius
- The impartiality of God (Acts 10:28, 34-36, 42; 11:17-19; 15:7-11)
- Antioch emerges as dominant believing community
- The power of God evident – Gospel (12:24), Peter, Herod

Part 3 – Acts 13-28

- ▶ Three missionary journeys (13-14; 16-18; 19-20)
- ▶ Jerusalem Council (15)
- ▶ Paul's arrest and defense (21-28)
- ▶ Acts 13
 - Barnabas and Saul sent out (13:1-3)
 - Witnessing in Cyprus (13:4-12)
 - Witnessing in Antioch (13:13-52)

Barnabas and Saul Sent Out (13:1-3)

- ▶ Prophets and teachers in the church at Antioch
- ▶ Barnabas, the enabler (4:36-37; 9:26-27; 11:22-26)
- ▶ Saul, the Lord's chosen vessel (9:6, 15-16; 13:2; 22:10, 12-16, 21; 23:11; 26:16-17)
- ▶ The Holy Spirit directs the church at Antioch
- ▶ The church fasted, prayed, laid hands, sent
- ▶ John Mark (12:12, 25, 13:5, 13 – 15:39; Col 4:10)



Witnessing in Cyprus (13:4-12)

- ▶ Proclaiming the Word of God
 - Synagogues first
 - 1 Corinthians 2:1-5; 15:3-4 – Christ crucified and raised
 - 1 Corinthians 1:18-21 – wisdom of God; foolish to men
 - Sergius Paulus sought to hear the Word of God
- ▶ Bar-Jesus the magician – Elymas
 - Opposing Paul and Barnabas – hinder salvation
 - Paul's assessment (Acts 13:10)
 - Blind “for a time”
- ▶ Sergius Paulus believed – “amazed at the teaching of the Lord”
- ▶ A spiritual warfare (Ephesians 6:10-12)

Witnessing in Antioch (13:13-52)

- ▶ Jesus, the Savior (13:23, 26, 32, 38-39, 43, 47)
 - History of Israel (13:16-25)
 - The Promise of God (13:26-37)
 - Justification by faith (13:38-43)
- ▶ Persecution (13:44-52)

Part 1: History of Israel (13:16-25)

- ▶ Men of Israel and you who fear God
- ▶ God of Israel – History of salvation
 - Chose the fathers
 - An unworthy people – Egypt, wilderness, judges, Saul
 - Grace of God – great people, exodus, inheritance
- ▶ Samuel (1 Samuel 2:1-11; 3:1, 19-21, 4:1)
- ▶ David
- ▶ John the Baptist
 - Baptism of repentance
 - Jesus is the Worthy One
- ▶ Jesus is the end point of the O.T./Promise

Part 2: The Promise of God (13:26-37)

- ▶ Family of Abraham and you who fear God
- ▶ This salvation has been sent
- ▶ Jews did not recognize Jesus or the prophetic word
- ▶ Death and burial of Jesus
- ▶ “But God raised Him from the dead.” (13:30)
 - The Begotten One (Psalm 2:7)
 - Sure blessings of David (Isaiah 55:3; Psalm 32:2)
 - The Holy One (Psalm 16:10)
- ▶ The good news of the Promise made to the fathers

Part 3: Justification by Faith (13:38-41)

- ▶ Forgiveness of sins is proclaimed through Jesus Christ
- ▶ Freed (justified) by faith
- ▶ Not available through the Law of Moses
- ▶ Take heed – a warning not to reject this Promise
- ▶ Habakkuk 1:5 – a shocking work – salvation

The Power of God for Salvation

- ▶ Salvation (13:42-43)
 - Begging to hear more of the Word
 - Many Jews and God-fearing proselytes
 - Urged to continue in the grace of God
- ▶ Persecution (13:44-45; 50)
 - Nearly the whole city came to hear the Word of the Lord
 - Jews filled with jealousy
 - Contradicting and blaspheming
- ▶ Turning to the Gentiles (13:46-47)
 - Christ a light to the Gentiles (Isaiah 42:6; 49:6)
 - Gentiles – appointed to eternal life – believed
 - The word of the Lord spread through the whole region
 - Disciples filled with joy and the Holy Spirit

The Appointment of God

- ▶ Acts 13:41
- ▶ Behold and marvel – Jesus Christ, Savior
- ▶ Accomplishing work in your days you will not believe
- ▶ Preach/proclaim – a spiritual work
- ▶ Pray for the work of the Holy Spirit
 - Boldness
 - Regeneration