

NOON BIBLE STUDY: ACTS 13

ACTS 13:1-3 - SETTING: ANTIOCH. CHURCH GATHERED, PRAYING, FASTING.

- BARNABAS AND SAUL "SET APART" FOR THE WORK WHICH THE LORD HAD CALLED FOR THEM: 1ST MISSIONARY JOURNEY"

ACTS 13:4-12 — ISLAND OF CYPRUS

V. 4 - WENT TO SELEUCIA → SAILED TO ISLAND OF CYPRUS

V. 5 - SALAMIS, CITY ON CYPRUS.

- BARNABAS, SAUL, & JOHN MARK PROCLAIM THE "WORD OF GOD" (AKA THE GOSPEL MESSAGE) IN SYNAGOGUES, GO THROUGH THE WHOLE ISLAND.

SALAMIS WAS THE CLOSEST PORT OF CYPRUS (ABOUT 130 MILES SOUTHWEST OF SELEUCIA).

PAPHOS WAS 90 MILES (145 KM) SOUTHWEST OF SALAMIS AND WAS THE SEAT OF THE ROMAN GOVERNMENT OF CYPRUS. PAPHOS HERE LIKELY REFERS TO THE PORT CITY OF NEA PAPHOS RATHER THAN NEARBY OLD PAPHOS (WITH ITS FAMOUS ANCIENT TEMPLE OF APHRODITE). FIRST-CENTURY REMAINS IN NEA PAPHOS INCLUDE AN ODEION (A SMALL COVERED THEATER), A LARGER THEATER, AND THE SANCTUARY OF APOLLO.

CYPRUS WAS ALSO BARNABAS' HOME (ACTS 4:36-37)

V. 6 - JEWISH FALSE PROPHET, MAGICIAN, BAR-JESUS (V. 8 CALLED ELYMAS)

V. 7 - PROCONSUL (GOVERNOR OR PROVINCE) SERGUS PAULUS SOUGHT TO HEAR THE WORD OF GOD!

BAR-JESUS/ELYMAS OPPOSES PAUL, WORKING TO DISSUADE ELYMAS FROM THE FAITH.

V. 9 - SAUL (WHO WAS KNOWN AS PAUL), FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT, CONFRONTS THE FALSE PROPHET.

V. 11 - REVERSE MIRACLE

V. 12 - PROCONSUL BELIEVES!

ACTS 13:13-14 — "PAUL & HIS COMPANIONS" SAIL FROM PAPHOS (CITY ON WESTERN CYPRUS) TO PERGA (IN PAMPHYLIA). (INTERESTING CHANGE IN WORDING BY LUKE. UP TO THIS POINT IT HAS BEEN "BARNABAS AND SAUL" ETC.) AT THIS TIME JOHN MARK RETURNS TO JERUSALEM. THEY THEN TRAVEL FROM PERGA TO PISIDIAN ANTIOCH WHICH IS IN THE REGION OF GALATIA.



"PISIDIAN ANTIOCH" (NASB) OR "ANTIOCH IN PISIDIA (ESV)" WAS ONE OF 16 CITIES THAT THE SYRIAN KING SELEUCUS HAD NAMED FOR HIS FATHER ANTIOCHUS. THE CITY HAD A LARGE JEWISH POPULATION AND THE HIGH STATUS OF BEING A ROMAN "COLONY." IT IS TO BE DISTINGUISHED FROM ANTIOCH IN SYRIA, FROM WHICH PAUL AND BARNABAS HAD BEGUN THEIR JOURNEY (ACTS 13:1). EXCAVATIONS AT PISIDIAN ANTIOCH HAVE REVEALED MUCH FROM PAUL'S DAY: CITY WALLS, A THEATER, LARGE STREETS, A TEMPLE TO THE ANATOLIAN GOD "MEN ASKAENOS", AND A LARGE TEMPLE PLATFORM PROBABLY RELATED TO EMPEROR WORSHIP. (ESV STUDY BIBLE, ACTS 13:14)

ACTS 13:15-42 - PAUL PREACHES IN JEWISH SYNAGOGUE TO JEWS AND GOD-FEARING GENTILES

- PAUL SPEAKS A MESSAGE THAT HIS AUDIENCE WOULD HAVE KNOWN AND RECOGNIZED AND WELCOMED. HE TELLS THEM A FAMILIAR STORY IN A WAY THAT WILL POINT THEM TO JESUS.

V. 23-25 - FACTS, NOT CONTROVERSIAL.

- THESE EVENTS WERE APPARENTLY KNOWN BY THE JEWS IN PISIDIAN ANTIOCH. EITHER BY WORD OF THESE EVENTS IN JUDEA TRAVELING BY WORD OF MOUTH THERE OR PERHAPS BECAUSE OF HEARING ABOUT THEM AT A PILGRIMAGE FESTIVAL TO JERUSALEM.

V. 26-41 - JESUS: FACTS AND CONVICTION

V. 29 — CROSS

V. 30 — RESURRECTION

V. 32-37 - OT FULFILLMENT. LIFE & MEANING GIVEN TO PSALMS. (V. 36 - OBVIOUSLY NOT ABOUT DAVID)

V. 38-41 - RESPONSE ENCOURAGED TO THIS MESSAGE. MADE IT PERSONAL. "TAKE HEED"

V. 42 - PEOPLE WANTED TO HEAR MORE!

V. 43 - EXCITEMENT, CURIOSITY

V. 44 - ONE WEEK LATER!

ACTS 13:44-47 — PAUL & BARNABAS SPEAK TO CYPRIAN CROWD.

V. 44 - WHOLE CITY (JEWS & GENTILES) ASSEMBLED TO HEAR!

V. 45 - JEWS BECOME JEALOUS. BEGAN CONTRADICTING PAUL & BLASPHEMING.

V. 46 - PAUL & BARNABAS, REJECTED BY JEWS, "TURN TO THE GENTILES" (PAUL HAD ALREADY WARNED ABOUT THIS (V. 40-41)

ACTS 13:48-52 - NEXT PHASE OF MISSIONARY JOURNEY

V. 48-49 - GENTILES REJOICED. MANY ACCEPTED THE GOSPEL. WORD SPREAD THROUGH THE ENTIRE REGION.

V. 50 - PERSECUTION PUSHES PAUL & BARNABAS OUT OF AREA, SO PAUL AND BARNABAS JUST MOVE ON TO ICONIUM (V.51-52)

- ACTS 14 WILL DESCRIBE THE REST OF 1ST MISSIONARY JOURNEY)

- THIS REGION WILL BE THE REGION THAT PAUL WILL EVENTUALLY WRITE GALATIANS TO.