

Acts 13:13-16

1. From last week, “prophet” and “false prophet” in Greek text
2. Observation and exposition
3. The take-away for us?

Discussion questions

1. Why did Luke include this passage (13:13-52)?
 - a. Give a detailed example/account of Paul’s strategy of starting in a/the synagogue(s)?
 - b. Give an example of Paul’s preaching to Jews in a synagogue setting?
 - c. Perhaps this was the first occasion of Jewish opposition to his preaching?
2. Why did Paul, Barnabas, and John go to Perga from Paphos?
3. Why did John leave them in Perga?
4. Why did Paul and Barnabas go to Antioch in Pisidia?

Observation and exposition

1. Read the passage
2. Setting
 - a. When?
 - i. A.D. 46 (47) [SLIDE]
 - b. Where?
 - i. Perga in Pamphylia and then to Antioch in Pisidia
3. Observation and exposition
 - a. Perga
 - i. Why Perga?
 - b. Reasons for John Mark leaving Paul and Barnabas
 - i. Perhaps he was unprepared for the rigors and challenges of missionary work.
 - ii. Perhaps he resented how his cousin Barnabas was slipping into second place behind Paul.
 1. Compare **Acts 12:25; 13:2, 7, 13**
 - c. Antioch in Pisidia
 - i. According to one source there were at least sixteen ancient cities (in Turkey) named Antioch.

- ii. About 106 miles north of Perga, over the Taurus mountains.
- iii. Why Antioch?
 - 1. Some commentators think it was to escape the coastal lowlands that were known for malaria, and that Paul had contracted malaria while they were there.
 - a. **Galatians 4:13-14 [SLIDE]**
 - b. Antioch is/was about 3,600 feet above sea level
 - 2. Others speculate that Sergius Paulus (from Cyprus) had family or connections in Antioch, and would have wanted them to hear the gospel as he had.
 - 3. Paul's strategy of going to major city-centers from which the gospel could spread to surrounding areas.
 - a. **Acts 13:49 [SLIDE]**
- d. Synagogues
 - i. Purpose
 - 1. "First Century Synagogues" by Chad Spigel
 - 2. "He Went to Synagogue" by Ray Van Der Laan
 - ii. Design
 - iii. Order of "worship"
- e. Paul's opening words
 - i. Men of Israel
 - ii. you who fear God

The take-away for us

Resources

1. *The Acts of the Apostles*, F. F. Bruce, 1990
2. *The Book of the Acts*, F. F. Bruce, 1988
3. *The Acts of the Apostles*, David G. Peterson
4. *The Message of Acts*, John Stott
5. *The Acts of the Apostles*, Ben Witherington III
6. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Antioch_of_Pisidia
7. <https://www.bibleodyssey.org/en/places/related-articles/first-century-synagogues>
8. <https://www.thatttheworldmayknow.com/he-went-to-synagogue>