

Lesson 39: Acts 13:1-3 Barnabas and Saul Sent Off

Background: Saul and Barnabas before the church at Antioch.

Acts 13:1 What were the two groups of people in the church in Antioch?_____

Acts 13:2 What were the Christians in the church at Antioch doing?_____

Acts 13:3 What did the church do after the Holy Spirit said this?_____

4 Prize dollars if an adult reads the Bible passage with the student and helps them fill out their Study Sheet.

Adult Signature X_____

Acts 13:1-3 Question Answers

Acts 13:1 Simeon, who was most likely an African believer in Christ Jesus; Lucius, who was from Cyrene in Africa; and Manaen, who had grown up with king Herod, but was now a believer in Jesus, were **prophets and teachers in the church in Antioch.** Prophets are people who God has chosen to give a message to His people, while teachers are people who God has chosen to help His people trust and follow Him more and more everyday.

Acts 13:2 The early Christian church, the followers of Jesus, met in people's houses or in caves, or outside. The Gentile church family of Jesus in Antioch included believers from Syria, countries in Africa, and Greece. When Saul, who was also known as Paul, and Barnabas, whose name means "son of encouragement," arrived at Antioch, the Christians, the followers of Jesus, were **worshiping Jesus and fasting.**

To worship means to give honor, love, respect, and thanks to God. No one and nothing else deserves our worship except God. To fast means to go without food for a period of time in order to focus on how much we need God everyday.

During this time of worshiping and fasting, God the Holy Spirit, Who lives in the hearts of every follower of Jesus, told the church in Antioch to, "Set apart for Me, Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them."

God the Holy Spirit is the third Person of the Trinity. He called Barnabas and Saul to go on a journey to spread the Good News of who Jesus is and what He has done for all who have sinned.

Acts 13:3 The church fasted and prayed to God and then **they laid their hands on Barnabas and Saul,** praying for them in preparation for their coming journey.

Lesson 40: Acts 13:4-12 Barnabas and Saul on Cyprus

Background: Saul and Barnabas before Sergius Paulus of Cyprus.

Acts 13:4-8 Who opposed Saul and Barnabas when they were trying to teach Sergius Paulus about Jesus? _____

Acts 13:9-11 What happened to Elymas the magician when he tried to stop Sergius Paulus from believing in Jesus? _____

Acts 13:12 How did Sergius Paulus react to seeing his magician blinded by God the Holy Spirit? _____

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Acts 13:4-12 Question Answers

Acts 13:4-8 After being sent on their mission to share the Gospel, the Good News about Jesus, Saul and Barnabas traveled from Antioch, which is in modern day Turkey, down to Seleucia, which is in the province of modern day Baghdad in Iraq. From there, they sailed to the island of Cyprus, where they and John-Mark, the writer of the Gospel According to Mark, visited the Jewish synagogues (buildings where God's chosen people would read and study the Hebrew Bible) in order to tell the Jews about Jesus, the King that God the Father had promised to send. When Saul, Barnabas, and John-Mark had traveled all over Cyprus telling people about Jesus, the Roman proconsul, Sergius Paulus, called for them to come and tell him about Jesus too. Sergius Paulus ruled the island for the Roman emperor Claudius. Before Saul and Barnabas were able to tell the proconsul about Jesus though, one of Sergius Paulus' advisors tried to stop them. **Elymas the magician, whose Jewish name in Hebrew was Bar-Jesus** (which means son of Joshua, or son of the savior) opposed them, trying to keep Sergius Paulus from believing in and following Jesus, God the Son.

Real prophets are people who God has given a message to speak to His people. False prophets, like Elymas the magician, were not given a message from God, but they lie and tell people that they speak for God when they don't.

Acts 13:9-11 Saul, whose other name was Paul, being filled with God the Holy Spirit, looked at Elymas the magician and called him a son of the devil and an enemy of all righteousness, because he was trying to stop people from trusting and following Jesus. Elymas did not want Sergius Paulus to be saved from his sins and to become part of God's church family through Jesus, because then, Sergius Paulus would no longer need a fake magician to give him fake messages from God.

To both stop Elymas from fooling people and to prove that what Paul was saying about Jesus was true, Paul declared that, "the hand of the Lord is upon you, and you will be blind and unable to see the sun for a time." Immediately, **Elymas became completely blind** and had to be led around by the hand, because he could not see.

Acts 13:12 Not only was Elymas now unable to see or walk around without the help of others leading him by the hand, he had become living proof that Jesus is God the Son. Seeing how God blinded Elymas when Paul said it would happen proved to Sergius Paulus that Paul was a true prophet of God and that his message about Jesus was true. If Paul were a false prophet, Sergius Paulus knew that God would not have blinded Elymas like Paul said He would. Because of this, **Sergius Paulus believed that Jesus is God the Son and that He died to pay for his sins.**

Lesson 41: Acts 13:13-52 Paul and Barnabas at Antioch in Pisidia

Background: Saul and Barnabas at Antioch.

Acts 13:13-23 Through whose offspring did God bring Israel a Savior? _____

Acts 13:24-41 What did Paul proclaim to the Jews in the synagogue? _____

Acts 13:42-52 What did the Paul and Barnabas do when some of the Jews rejected their message about Jesus? _____

4 Prize dollars if an adult reads the Bible passage with the student and helps them fill out their Study Sheet.

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Acts 13:4-12 Question Answers

Acts 13:13-23 Pisidia was a region of Asia Minor. Pisidian Antioch is now known as Yalvac, Turkey. This is a different Antioch from Syrian Antioch (now known as Antakya, Turkey), where the church fasted and prayed for Paul and Barnabas earlier.

Paul showed them from the Old Testament how God had made the Jewish people great. How God rescued them from Egypt, how God sent them judges to save them, how God used Samuel to lead them, how they asked for a human king to rule over them and God gave them Saul, the son of Kish, and how God made David king. God promised king David that one of the members of his family would sit on David's throne and would rule over an everlasting kingdom. **This King God promised to send would be the offspring of David,** the Savior of Israel, and the Savior of the whole world, King Jesus.

John Mark left Paul and Barnabas before their arrival in pisidian Antioch. There, they went to the synagogue (the place where the Jews would read from the Hebrew Scriptures, our Old Testament). After being invited to speak, Paul taught the Jews and the gentile converts to Judaism about Jesus.

Acts 13:24-41 Paul taught the Jews and gentile believers in God how the whole Old Testament proved that the King they were waiting for would be God's own Son. As God the Son, the King's body would not see corruption, it would not turn to dust when it was buried in the ground, the way that even king David's body turned to dust. Anyone who has read the Old Testament Scriptures, which were written over five-hundred years before Jesus was born on earth, would know that when Jesus was buried in the tomb for three days and then came back from the dead in His new, perfect resurrection body, **Jesus proved that He is God the Son, the King who forgives sin.**

Acts 13:42-52 The next week, the whole city came out to hear about Jesus. Even though Paul and Barnabas were teaching the Jews about Jesus using their own Old Testament, they would not believe that Jesus was the promised King of the Jews. Because the Jews of pisidian Antioch would not believe Jesus was God the Son, the King, **Paul told them that Jesus, the Lord, the King, had made Paul and Barnabas to be a light to the gentiles,** the non-Jewish people. Because of this, the gentiles that heard Paul and Barnabas teach about Jesus, became followers of Jesus and were forgiven of their sins.

The Jews of pisidian Antioch persecuted Paul and Barnabas until they left the region. After this, Paul and Barnabas went on to Iconium.