

A. Invitation To Speak At A Synagogue (Acts 13:14-15) -

Acts 13:14-15 - But when they departed from Perga, they came to Antioch in Pisidia, and went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and sat down. Acts 13:15 And after the reading of the law and the prophets the rulers of the synagogue sent unto them, saying, *Ye men and brethren*, if ye have any word of exhortation for the people, say on.

1. John Mark has _____serted Paul and Barnabas. They travel to **Antioch in Pisidia** (N. Syria & S. Turkey) and find a synagogue to attend on the Sabbath day.

Dr. Stam: "Interestingly the word synagogue is found _____ times in Acts but not once in the epistles of Paul, even though 6 of his epistles were written during the Acts period. Again, this shows the Acts' main story of Israel's apostasy, while Paul's epistles reveal the _____trine and practice of the Body of Christ."

2. The religious leaders of the synagogue give Paul and Barnabas an _____vitation to speak after the Law was read. This meant there must have been a sizeable crowd who would be listening.
- a. No doubt Paul's _____tity could have been known as a student who had studied under Gamaliel. Those in the synagogue would love to hear one whose education had come from one of the great Jewish teachers of all time!
- b. Paul's sermon in Acts 13 is recorded for the _____time. It is similar to Peter's and Stephen's in the telling of Israel's history. **Paul had heard Stephen's speech.
- c. Notice: Though Paul's message had _____ilar truths as Peter's and Stephen's (same God-Savior-Word-Love), his message _____ers in regard to the gospel (good news). Paul here will utter a truth that is recorded for the first time to more than anyone else had _____ heard previously.

*Paul's sermon contains three parts: an historic review, the gospel of Jesus Christ, and a solemn warning.

B. Paul Addresses Some Of Israel's Past (Acts 13:16-25) -

1.

*In
vs.
16,

Acts 13:16 - Then Paul stood up, and beckoning with *his* hand said, Men of Israel, and ye that fear God, give audience.

Paul addresses these Jews as Israel because that is their _____enant name. Remember, he _____ is not addressing them as a nation (set aside), but as _____dividuals of Israel.

*[and ye that fear God,] were _____tiles that wanted to hear what Paul had to say.

2.

Acts 13:17 - The God of this people of Israel chose our fathers, and exalted the people when they dwelt as strangers in the land of Egypt, and with an high arm brought he them out of it.

*Israel was a chosen people, as well as a chosen nation, beginning with Abraham - to Isaac - to Jacob. It was because of Jacob's son, Joseph, that Egypt _____ed the Jewish people.

Exodus 1:6-8, 11 - And Joseph died, and all his brethren, and all that generation. Exo. 1:7 And the children of Israel were fruitful, and increased abundantly, and multiplied, and waxed exceeding mighty; and the land was filled with them. Exo. 1:8 Now there arose up a new king over Egypt, which knew not Joseph. Exo. 1:11 Therefore they did set over them taskmasters to afflict them with their burdens. And they built for Pharaoh treasure cities, Pithom and Raamses.

**It was later that God raised up a mighty deliverer, _____, to lead the Israelites (Israel) out of Egypt.

3. Acts 13:18 - And about the time of forty years suffered he their manners in the wilderness.

*God, in longsuffering, had the Israelites wander in the wilderness for forty years because of their unbelief. He judged them by having them _____, except for Caleb's and Joshua's families and those ones who did not know the difference between good and evil. After forty years, a new generation of Israelites followed Joshua into their promised land. Can you imagine after all God had done for His chosen people, all they could do was not believe - but complain and murmur.

Hebrews 3:8-10 - Harden not your hearts, as in the provocation, in the day of temptation in the wilderness: Heb. 3:9 When your fathers tempted me, proved me, and saw my works forty years. Heb. 3:10 Wherefore I was grieved with that generation, and said, They do alway err in *their* heart; and they have not known my ways.

4. Acts 13:19 - And when he had destroyed seven nations in the land of Chanaan, he divided their land to them by lot.

*God supernaturally helped Israel's military to triumph over the surrounding enemies. Then each tribe was awarded their property inheritance that had been promised by God (Gen. 15 & 17).

5. Acts 13:20 - And after that he gave *unto them* judges about the space of four hundred and fifty years, until Samuel the prophet.

*This number of 450 years is rounded off and covers their sojourn in Egypt (around 400 years), the wilderness period (____ years), and their conquest of Canaan (about ____ years).

6. Acts 13:21 - And afterward they desired a king: and God gave unto them Saul the son of Cis, a man of the tribe of Benjamin, by the space of forty years.

*After the Judges period up to the prophet Samuel, Israel cried for a _____ so that they could be like other nations. In doing this, they were rejecting _____ as ruler over them! God, no doubt, was crushed but allowed them to have what they desired - King _____ for 40 years. The Israelites did not want to be part of a theocracy.

I Samuel 8:7 - And the LORD said unto Samuel, Hearken unto the voice of the people in all that they say unto thee: for they have not rejected thee, but they have rejected me, that I should not reign over them.

7. Acts 13:22 - And when he had removed him, he raised up unto them David to be their king; to whom also he gave testimony, and said, I have found David the *son* of Jesse, a man after mine own heart, which shall fulfil all my will.

*After Saul's unbelieving and disobedient failure as the people's choice, God picked His own King for Israel - David. God did not look at his appearance only, but upon David's _____ that was like God's for Israel.

8. Acts 13:23 - Of this man's seed hath God according to *his* promise raised unto Israel a Saviour, Jesus:

*Paul explains that it was through David and his seed that _____siah would come and did come. This Savior for Israel is _____!

Romans 1:3 - Concerning his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, which was made of the seed of David according to the flesh;

Matthew 1:1 - The book of the generation of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.

9.

Acts 13:24 - When John had first preached before his coming the baptism of repentance to all the people of Israel.

- a. Paul here explains that John the Baptist had testified unto Israel of Jesus' coming to them. John, being prior to Christ's entrance, thundered about the coming of Jesus as Savior - as was _____hesied.

Malachi 3:1 - Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the LORD of hosts.

Isaiah 40:3 - The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Matthew 11:10 - For this is he, of whom it is written, Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee.

- b. Remember, the Jews required _____ baptism which was a cleansing _____mony. This water baptism was done with a hyssop branch, and this ceremony was by _____ling water on the individual Jew who came repentant.

Mark 1:4 - John did baptize in the wilderness, and preach the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins.

Luke 3:3 - And he came into all the country about Jordan, preaching the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins;

Matthew 3:6 - And were baptized of him in Jordan, confessing their sins.

Acts 2:38 - Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

10.

Acts 13:25 - And as John fulfilled his course, he said, Whom think ye that I am? I am not *he*. But, behold, there cometh one after me, whose shoes of *his* feet I am not worthy to loose.

*Paul states that John the Baptist had explained that he himself was _____ the Savior, but told them the Savior was on His way.

John 1:32-34, 36 - And John bare record, saying, I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it abode upon him. John 1:33 And I knew him not: but he that sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me, Upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on him, the same is he which baptizeth with the Holy Ghost. John 1:34 And I saw, and bare record that this is the Son of God. John 1:36 And looking upon Jesus as he walked, he saith, Behold the Lamb of God!

C. Paul Now Preaches The Gospel (Acts 13:26-39) -

1.

Acts 13:26 - Men *and* brethren, children of the stock of Abraham, and whosoever among you feareth God, to you is the word of this salvation sent.

*Paul identifies his audience again so no one would mistake who this sermon was to. It is to the Jews, but also the Gentiles (whosoever). Salvation was to all who feared God and would listen to the WORD. No doubt the congregation eagerly awaited to listen to what Paul was about to announce regarding salvation.

2.

Acts 13:27 - For they that dwell at Jerusalem, and their rulers, because they knew him not, nor yet the voices of the prophets which are read every sabbath day, they have fulfilled *them* in condemning *him*.

a. Paul shares how Israel, as a nation, had rejected Christ. _____ viously the prophets gave the WORD and the religious rulers rejected the _____ WORD, so when Christ came they did not know the living WORD.... _____!

b. By rejecting Jesus, they actually fulfilled prophecy concerning Israel rejecting Him.

Isaiah 53:3 - He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were *our* faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

John 1:11 - He came unto his own, and his own received him not.

3.

Acts 13:28 - And though they found no cause of death *in him*, yet desired they Pilate that he should be slain.

*Israel could not find _____ sin in Jesus to convict Him of anything, let alone a sin that would warrant death. Yet they killed Him!

John 8:46 - Which of you convinceth me of sin? And if I say the truth, why do ye not believe me?

Hebrews 4:15 - For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as *we are*, yet without sin.

II Corinthians 5:21 - For he hath made him *to be* sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

4. Acts 13:29 - And when they had fulfilled all that was written of him, they took *him* down from the tree, and laid *him* in a sepulchre.
- a. Jesus fulfilled His purpose for coming. Prophecies concerning Messiah were read in the synagogue every Sabbath: His birth, life, death - thus His death on a cross was fulfilling Scripture (Isaiah 53:1-12).
- b. Also, Jesus' being placed in the tomb shows He _____ died.
5. Acts 13:30 - But God raised him from the dead:
- a. In verse 28 - Christ died, in verse 29 - Christ was buried, and here in verse 30, Christ arose!
- *Paul just gave the gospel and at a later date reaffirms the gospel.
- I Corinthians 15:3-4 - For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; 1Cor. 15:4 And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:
- b. God set His seal of _____ roval on His Son and, by the Spirit, raised Jesus.
- Romans 8:11 - But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.
- I Corinthians 15:20, 23 - But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept. 1Cor. 15:23 But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming.
6. Acts 13:31 - And he was seen many days of them which came up with him from Galilee to Jerusalem, who are his witnesses unto the people.
- Paul shares that the _____ of Jesus' resurrection was overwhelmingly convincing because of so many witnesses who saw Him alive! (I Cor. 15:3-8)
- b. Jesus even returned to where they crucified Him and was seen of people. Plus, He ministered to His disciples for _____ days!
7. Acts 13:32-33 - And we declare unto you glad tidings, how that the promise which was made unto the fathers, Acts 13:33 God hath fulfilled the same unto us their children, in that he hath raised up Jesus again; as it is also written in the second psalm, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee.
- a. Paul says his joyous message is the fulfillment of promises given to their Jewish nation's fathers. These promises went back to Abraham and even back all the way to Genesis 3:15!
- b. But Paul says God's fulfillment of His promise was also for the benefit of these listeners. This gospel message is for _____...right _____!

- c. Paul quotes Psalm 2:7 [this day have I begotten thee]. This is not speaking about Christ's being less than the Father or a created being! "This day" is referring to Christ's _____surrection.

*On a certain day, He entered as the "Begotten One" into the world. After He died, He entered this world as the "First begotten" from the dead - destined to be King of all!

Revelation 1:5 - And from Jesus Christ, *who is* the faithful witness, *and the first begotten of the dead*, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood,

8.

Acts 13:34-35 - And as concerning that he raised him up from the dead, *now* no more to return to corruption, he said on this wise, I will give you the sure mercies of David. Acts 13:35 Wherefore he saith also in another *psalm*, Thou shalt not suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.

- a. Paul tells these listeners, especially the Jews, that the promises seemingly to David did not refer to him - but to the Son of God (Acts 2:31; Psalm 2:7; Psalm 16:8-11). Christ, in the grave, would see no corruption.

*Jesus' body was only buried for three days and saw no decay or putrifaction.

- b. [the sure mercies of David] Israel, the object of holy promises of an heir sitting in glory on the earth, will have those promises realized in Christ when He _____stores Israel one day.

Luke 1:32-33 - He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: Luke 1:33 And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.

9.

Acts 13:36 - For David, after he had served his own generation by the will of God, fell on sleep, and was laid unto his fathers, and saw corruption:

- *The fact that David saw corruption (being still in the grave) (Acts 2:29) proves the prophecies of no corruption were all about this _____ Christ.

10. Acts 13:37 - But he, whom God raised again, saw no corruption.

*Paul proclaims there is none like Jesus - Who died, was buried, and rose again. "Listen, He's alive right now!"

11.

Acts 13:38 - Be it known unto you therefore, men *and* brethren, that through this man is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins:

- a. Paul tells them that the wonderful accomplishment of Jesus Christ can remove _____ their sins!
- b. Paul is bringing it home to their minds and hearts. Even though they were all sinful, Jesus was their answer and Jesus _____ - [through this man].

I Timothy 2:5 - For *there is* one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;

12. Acts 13:39 - And by him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses.

1. In this verse, Paul gives the amazing and shocking climax of his gospel. It is _____ alone, by _____ alone. Surely one can see the departure from the Kingdom program.

a. Paul did not once mention repentance, not once baptism, nor keeping the Law! A person is justified by faith alone in the _____.

b. You Jewish men (remember Paul is in the synagogue on the Sabbath!), Law has nothing now to do with your salvation!

I Corinthians 4:15 - For though ye have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet *have ye* not many fathers: for in Christ Jesus I have begotten you through the gospel.

2. Their salvation depended upon what they did with "this man" and His finished _____. (D.B.R.)

D. Paul Concludes With A Warning (Acts 13:40-41) -

Acts 13:40-41 - Beware therefore, lest that come upon you, which is spoken of in the prophets; Acts 13:41 Behold, ye despisers, and wonder, and perish: for I work a work in your days, a work which ye shall in no wise believe, though a man declare it unto you.

1. Paul gives them a warning that if they don't believe in Christ, there are indeed consequences for rejecting Jesus by their unbelief.

2. Example: Because of Israel's rejection of Christ and their trying to prevent the true gospel from being received, God destroyed the temple and Jerusalem. He also dispersed the Jews everywhere, which was a part of God's punitive work against those who did not believe. God is gracious, but His _____ is against them who will not believe.

I Thessalonians 2:16 - Forbidding us to speak to the Gentiles that they might be saved, to fill up their sins alway: for the wrath is come upon them to the uttermost.

II Thessalonians 1:8 - In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ:

What a message Paul preached!