

INTRODUCTION

1. Lk 24:46-48. Witness to Jesus' death & res, call to repentance, promise forgiveness of sin in Jesus name. Take message to all the nations: Acts.
2. Review survey of Acts chpts 1-13 [previous two sermons]. Resume survey & catch up to "Paul" & Barn in A13 - resume "1st missionary journey."

**1st: The Gospel Comes to Pisidian Antioch**

1. A 13:13 Paul & Barn -> S. Turkey & Mrk returns to Jeru.
2. v14-15 inland to Pisidian Antioch to synagogue- v16-33 sum of sermon.
  - i. v16-22 OT history - focus on Davidic Cov - v23 Jesus [v24-25 JnB]
  - ii. v26-28 unjust execution of Jesus - according to Script - emph's resurrection - v29-31 apostolic *witnesses*.
  - iii. v32-39 Paul preaches from Ps 2:7 [v33] & Isa 55:3 [v34] & Ps 16:10 [v35]. Resurrection - *forgiveness of sins* - v38. [Lk 24:46-48].
  - iv. v40 final warning from Hab 1:5 - impending judgment on unbelief.
  - v. v42-43 incited interest; encouraged *to continue in the grace of God*.
3. Next Sab: Gentile reception, Jewish jealousy. v47 = Isa 49:6. Time has come for ingathering of Gentiles - v48-49. v50-52 opposition yet growth
4. Jesus builds His church thru preaching & providence.

**2nd: The Gospel Comes to the Lycus Valley**

1. A 14:1-4 to synagogue in Iconium: mixed rxns: belief & opposition. To Lystra & Derbe. In Lystra: *witness* of creation - v17. Paul stoned, dead?
2. In Derbe - v21 - *made many disciples*
3. v21-23 preach perseverance, appt'd elders, commended them to the Lord. v24-28 back to Antioch in Syria - reported to church all God had done.

**3rd: The Church in Jerusalem and the Gospel to the Gentiles**

1. A 15 = pivotal event in Jesus' agenda of A 1:8. Ch in Jeru comes to terms w/ gospel going to all nations in NCov grace on basis of Jesus' death & res.
2. Some from Jeru church had disturbed church in Antioch. Even Ptr & Barn vacillated. Circumcision stands for entire OCov ceremonial law & represents OCov theocracy. Faith in Jesus identifies son of Ab - Galatians
  - i. Gal 3:6-9 gospel in AbCov: promised seed w/ res life like Isaac
  - ii. Gal 3:29 in X, a believer is Ab's seed according promise
  - iii. Gal 4:21-31 dif tw/ those born of flesh [Ishmael] & of Spirit [Isaac]
  - iv. Gal 5:6 circum irrelevant: what matters is living faith expressing love
  - v. Gal 6:15-16 circum irrelevant: what matters is *new creation* - regen
  - vi. Paul pens God's Word [1C 14:37; 2Pt 3:15-16 - Mrk 7:19]. NCov church is [eschatological] *Israel* defined by gospel of resurrection
3. A 15:1 circum? [v5]! Paul & Barn to Jeru: apostles & elders w/ ch [v4,6]
4. Ptr recalls Cornelius & concludes - v11. Paul & Barn recount ministry in Galatia [v12]. Jms interprets according to Amos 9:11-12 [16-18 - Hos 3:5; Jer 12:15; Isa 45:21]. Prophecy precedes & defines history.
5. Question was not "are Gentiles included?" but "on what condition[s] are Gentiles included?" Faith in Jesus PLUS circum, or faith in Jesus ALONE
6. Decision - circum is not necessary, only faith in Jesus. v19-21. Letter is sent to churches - request sensitivity to Jewish concerns since they are still hearing OT in synagogue. Return to church in Antioch - to end of earth.

**Applic #1: The Word of God Is Being and Will Be Fulfilled**

1. Bible interprets its own fulfilled prophecy. All prophecy must be fulfilled.
2. We live in *day of salvation* which precedes *day of wrath*.

**Applic #2: Let Us Be the Church That is Profiled in Acts**

1. Great Commission - church - *lo, I am w/ you to end of age*. How does world respond to *witness* - A 13:47-50 reception or rejection

2. What is a realistic expectation for the faithful witness?
3. Let us take our place in this glorious history of the unfolding of God's purposes for the nations as the NCov people of Jesus Christ.