

Acts 13:13-41
Paul's Sermon

Introduction:

Success in evangelism is not automatic, but it is the subject of God's promise. This is not to say there will be no rejection, for some will come to Christ. (I Cor. 2:14-17) Gospel seed will find soil in which to germinate (Matt. 13:8) you will note that Paul's sermon won him an invitation to preach again the following Sabbath. (Acts 13:42)

I. The Culmination of History – v.17-22

A. John Mark's desertion – Turn To: Acts 15:36-40

1. John Mark later went to be a missionary and become the gospel writer his name bears.
2. John Mark appears to have been reconciled to Paul in later years (Col. 4:10; II Tim. 4:11; Phile.24)

B. The Apostle Paul's sermon

1. A survey of Israel's history – Rom. 10:1
2. Where is history going? (John Paul Sartre, Dostoyevsky, Dawkins)
3. Content of his sermon:
 - a. God does the choosing not man – v.17; Acts 9:15; 22:14
 - b. God's patience is expressed – v.18; (Exo. 17:6; Deut. 8:4; 29:5; Exo. 17:8-13)
 - c. Inspiration – v.22; Heb. 1:5; 3:7
 - d. The Holy Spirit is speaking – Turn To: Luke 4:16-22

II. The Fulfillment of Prophecy – v.23-37

A. The Promised Messiah – Isa. 40:3-5

1. Salvation is available to two groups of people – Rom. 1:16

B. Anticipation two questions:

1. If Jesus is the Messiah, why did the Jewish leaders fail to recognize Him as such? Ans. They were ignorant of the prophetic word.
2. If Jesus the Messiah was rejected, does that nullify God's plan? Ans. It was part of God's plan. Isa. 53:3 "He was despised and forsaken of men" (Psa. 69:4; John 1:25; Isa. 53:9)

C. The Messiah was not defeated – v.30

1. He was raised from the dead – I Cor. 15:6-8; Psa. 2:7
2. He was in sharp contrast to David – Psa. 2:7; 16:10

III. The Justifier of Sinners – v.38-41

A. What does Justification mean?

1. No man can be righteous through the Law or by his own so called righteousness – Job. 9:2; 25:4; Gal. 3:10
2. Paul's direct answer to man's dilemma in sin – v. 38,39; Col. 2:13-14

B. Paul closed his sermon:

1. With a warning against rejecting the salvation offered in Jesus Christ.
2. Divine Judgment is forth coming on those who refuse to repent and believe the gospel of Christ – Habakkuk 1:5 cf.41; Heb. 2:1-3

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