



BIBLE STUDY

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Acts 13: 42-52

The Gospel Taught, Rejected, And Received

1. Gospel Taught To The Jews (Acts 13:42-44)

42 And when the Jews were gone out of the synagogue, the Gentiles besought that these words might be preached to them the next sabbath.

The Arabic, "Some of the synagogue of the Jews asked of them that they would exhort the Gentiles with them.

"next sabbath", the words may be rendered, "between the sabbath".

The Jewish congregations had a portion of the Law read in the synagogues not only on the Sabbath, but on the Monday and on the Thursday mornings, that they might not be for three days without hearing the Scripture.

43 Now when the congregation was broken up, many of the Jews and religious proselytes followed Paul and Barnabas: who,

speaking to them, persuaded them to continue in the grace of God.

Paul & Barnabus encouraged the people to “continue in the grace of God”

In the grace of God;

Their present state of being firmly resolved to serve God, whatsoever opposition or temptation they should meet with to the contrary, which was performed in them by the grace of God.

44 And the next sabbath day came almost the whole city together to hear the word of God.

2. Gospel Rejected by Jews (Acts 13:45-46)

45 But when the Jews saw the multitudes, they were filled with envy, and spake against those things which were spoken by Paul, contradicting and blaspheming.

They were filled with envy.—

The teaching of men who would admit all mankind into a relationship with God, the same privileges that the Jews have, was repugnant to them.

contradicting and blaspheming —

They contradicted Paul’s doctrine concerning the sufferings and death of the Messiah, and condemned him, or rather Jesus, calling Jesus an impostor, because he had not been able, they said, to deliver himself from death, though he, Jesus, pretended to be the Christ.

46 Then Paul and Barnabas waxed bold, and said, It was necessary that the word of God should first have been spoken to you: but seeing ye put it from you, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, lo, we turn to the Gentiles.

It was necessary that the word of God should first have been spoken to you:

Unworthy ... - Unfit to be saved. They had deliberately and solemnly rejected the gospel and had shown that they were not suited to enter everlasting life.

Judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life.

They regarded themselves as unworthy of eternal life - for they thought just the reverse; **but that by their conduct they condemned themselves.**

3. Gospel Received By The Gentiles (Acts 13:47-49)

47 For so hath the Lord commanded us, saying, I have set thee to be a light of the Gentiles, that thou shouldest be for salvation unto the ends of the earth.

Isaiah 49:6 New Living Translation (NLT)

He says, "You will do more than restore the people of Israel to me. I will make you a light to the Gentiles, and you will bring my salvation to the ends of the earth."

Isaiah 42:6 AMP

"I am the LORD, I have called You (the Messiah) in righteousness [for a righteous purpose], I will also take You by the hand and keep watch over You, And I will appoint You as a covenant to the people [Israel], As a light to the nations (Gentiles)

48 And when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad, and glorified the word of the Lord: and as many as were ordained to eternal life believed.

and as many as were ordained to eternal life believed.

All who were appointed for eternal life believed suggest that belief in Christ is not just a matter of one's faith but primarily involves divine appointment.

Romans 9:16 Amplified Bible (AMP)

So then God's choice is not dependent on human will, nor on human effort [the totality of human striving], but on God who shows mercy [to whomever He chooses—it is His sovereign gift].

Romans 9:16 NLT

So it is God who decides to show mercy. We can neither choose it nor work for it.

Romans 9:16 TPT

Again, this proves that God's choice doesn't depend on how badly someone wants it or tries to earn it, but it depends on God's kindness and mercy.

Ephesians 1:11-12 MSG

It's in Christ that we find out who we are and what we are living for. Long before we first heard of Christ and got our hopes up, he had his eye on us, had designs on us for glorious living, part of the overall purpose he is working out in everything and everyone.

Ephesians 1:11 AMP

In Him also we have received an inheritance [a destiny—we were claimed by God as His own], having been predestined (chosen, appointed beforehand) according to the purpose of Him who works everything in agreement with the counsel and design of His will.

Ephesians 1:11 TPT

Through our union with Christ we too have been claimed by God as his own inheritance. Before we were even born, he gave us our destiny; that we would fulfill the plan of God who always accomplishes every purpose and plan in his heart.

49 And the word of the Lord was published throughout all the region.

4. Rejected Because of the Gospel (Acts 13:50-52)

50 But the Jews stirred up the devout and honourable women, and the chief men of the city, and raised persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and expelled them out of their coasts.

51 But they shook off the dust of their feet against them, and came unto Iconium.

The shaking the dust off their feet, was a Jewish gesture of scorn & disassociation, which was directed at the city magistrate & the Jewish leaders.

52 And the disciples were filled with joy, and with the Holy Ghost.