

ACTS

MESSAGE: PAT SMITH

MUSIC: ALEX GALLAND

DATE: JUNE 8TH, 2025

Acts 12:25 – 13:12

Despite opposition, the Holy Spirit facilitates the church's mission to spread the Gospel globally.

Review: Normative activities

- Last week
 - Individuals were preaching the Gospel after the diaspora. (Acts 11:19-20)
 - Teams were formed to do the work. (Acts 11:22-26a)
 - The Gospel was proclaimed; new believers were taught the faith. (Acts 11:26)
- Previously
 - Elders' main function supported by the work of deacons. (Acts 6:1-6)
 - The core elements of the Gospel message. (Acts 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 10...)

The Holy Spirit chooses Antioch's proven to do His work.

Acts 12:25 And Barnabas and Saul returned from Jerusalem when they had completed their service, bringing with them John, whose other name was Mark.

Acts 13:1 Now there were in the church at Antioch prophets and teachers, Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen a lifelong friend of Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. **2** While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." **3** Then after fasting and praying they laid their hands on them and sent them off.

Barnabas and Saul recruited co-workers. (John Mark, Rom. 16, Col. 4)

The Holy Spirit unified the leaders (a diverse group) around the mission. (Acts 13:2)

Plurality of leaders (teachers, prophets, elders) was normative. (Acts 20:17, Titus 1:5)

The Church Expansion Begins with the Proclamation of the Gospel

Acts 13:4 So, being sent out by the Holy Spirit, they went down to Seleucia, and from there they sailed to Cyprus. **5** When they arrived at Salamis, they proclaimed the word of God in the synagogues of the Jews. And they had John to assist them.

Preaching in synagogues was foundational to the mission.

We are partners with the Spirit in delivering the Gospel. (Rom. 10:14-17)

14 How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? **15** And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!" **16** But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed what he has heard from us?" **17** So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

NOTES:

Opposition Does Not Stop, but Propels, the Work of the Holy Spirit

6 When they had gone through the whole island as far as Paphos, they came upon a certain magician, a Jewish false prophet named Bar-Jesus. **7** He was with the proconsul, Sergius Paulus, a man of intelligence, who summoned Barnabas and Saul and sought to hear the word of God. **8** But Elymas the magician (for that is the meaning of his name) opposed them, seeking to turn the proconsul away from the faith. **9** But Saul, who was also called Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, looked intently at him **10** and said, "You son of the devil, you enemy of all righteousness, full of all deceit and villainy, will you not stop making crooked the straight paths of the Lord? **11** And now, behold, the hand of the Lord is upon you, and you will be blind and unable to see the sun for a time." Immediately mist and darkness fell upon him, and he went about seeking people to lead him by the hand. **12** Then the proconsul believed, when he saw what had occurred, for he was astonished at the teaching of the Lord.

The plan of teaching in the synagogues is interrupted – the blindness of Elymas is ironic.

The miracle caught Sergius Paulus' attention, but the power of the Gospel saved him.

Paul was ready to evangelize in every circumstance.

Paul Confirms His Mission Given by God Through the Holy Spirit (Eph 3:7-10)

Eph. 3:7 Of this gospel I was made a minister according to the gift of God's grace, which was given me by the working of his power. **8** To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, **9** and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things, **10** so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places.

Review/Discuss/Apply

1. Have you discovered your part, place, or gifting that is growing and building up this body of Christ... Altamont Bible Church?
2. Does your personal time with the Lord allow for sensitivity to the Spirit's leading? What about communal times of prayer and worship?
3. Discuss with others why Luke may have repeated the Gospel message so often in the 1st half of the Book of Acts.

SONGS

THE LION AND THE LAMB
BE THOU MY VISION (O GOD)
BUILD MY LIFE
JESUS WE LOVE YOU

ALTAMONT PROGRESS REPORT

vbc.online/altamontprg

BUDGET

Giving Last Week: \$38,525.54
2025 Year to Date Giving: \$732,528.02
2025 Giving vs Need: \$136,031.98 Below Need

Altamont Expansion Fund (6/3): \$226,224.04

COMMUNICATION & GIVING

Envelopes for financial gifts, prayer requests, & communication to our church leadership are in the seatback pockets. Please pass the envelopes to the ushers or deposit them in the offering boxes by the exit doors. Thank you!

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