

Acts 13 Exposition

The Jews rejected Jesus as their Messiah corporately in Jerusalem, Pisidian Antioch, Corinth, and Rome.

The Book of Acts is a transition book cataloging the complete rejection of Jesus as the Jewish Messiah.

This, however, is not true individually. Any Jew can receive Christ as is Savior.

Is the Rejection of Jesus by the Nation of Israel forever?

For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in. ²⁶ And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob: ²⁷ For this *is* my covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins. ²⁸ As concerning the gospel, *they are* enemies for your sakes: but as touching the election, *they are* beloved for the fathers' sakes. ²⁹ For the gifts and calling of God *are* without repentance. (Rom. 11:25-29 KJV)

1 Thessalonians 2:16 (Amplified Bible)

16 Forbidding *and* hindering us from speaking to the Gentiles (the nations) that they may be saved. So as always they fill up [to the brim the measure of] their sins. But God's wrath has come upon them at last **completely and forever!** [Gen. 15:16.]

Note the cross reference Gen. 15:16

But in the fourth generation they shall come hither again: for the iniquity of the Amorites *is* not yet full. (Gen. 15:16 KJV)

Compare the KJV:

For ye, brethren, became followers of the churches of God which in Judaea are in Christ Jesus: for ye also have suffered like things of your own countrymen, even as they *have* of the Jews: ¹⁵ Who both killed the Lord Jesus, and their own prophets, and have persecuted us; and they please not God, and are contrary to all men: 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. (1 Thess. 2:14-16 KJV)

The editors of the Amplified Bible do not believe in the Restoration of Israel. (It is one of the Mysteries of God)

The earth also is defiled under the inhabitants thereof; because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance, broken the everlasting covenant.⁶ Therefore hath the curse devoured the earth, and they that dwell therein are desolate: therefore the inhabitants of the earth are burned, and few men left. (Isa. 24:5-6 KJV)

And when they had gone through the isle unto Paphos, they found a certain sorcerer, **a false prophet**, a Jew, whose name *was* Barjesus: (Acts 13:6 KJV)

Note: “A Jew” Barjesus- “son of Jesus”
“Bar” is Aramaic/ Hebrew is “ben”

Which was with the deputy of the country, Sergius **Paulus**, a prudent man; who called for Barnabas and Saul, and **desired to hear the word of God**. (Acts 13:7 KJV)

This man is open to the gospel.

Paul adopts his name? Paul= “little”?
Saul: his Jewish name= “desired”

But Elymas the sorcerer (for so is his name by interpretation) withstood them, seeking to turn away the deputy from the faith. (Acts 13:8 KJV)

Note: the 2nd name of Barjesus
Elymas tries to keep his hold on the proconsul.

Then Saul, (who also *is called* Paul,) filled with the Holy Ghost, set his eyes on him, (Acts 13:9 KJV)

2nd name change in the passage

And said, O full of all subtilty and all mischief, *thou* child of the devil, *thou* enemy of all righteousness, wilt thou not cease to pervert the right ways of the Lord? (Acts 13:10 KJV)

Note the directness: not exactly “How To Win Friends And Influence People”

And now, behold, the hand of the Lord *is* upon thee, and thou shalt be **blind**, not seeing the sun for a season. And immediately there fell on him a **mist and a darkness**; and he went about seeking some to lead him by the hand. (Acts 13:11 KJV)

The same thing happened to Paul (Acts 9)

Elymas is a type of Israel in this dispensation.

- Note how this incident matches Acts 8 with Simon Peter.

Paul matched all of the miracles of Peter.

Simon Peter is not mentioned in the Book of Acts after 15:7.

Then the deputy, when he saw what was done, **believed**, being astonished at **the doctrine of the Lord**. (Acts 13:12 KJV)

The deputy is converted on the spot.

Now when Paul and his company loosed from Paphos, they came to Perga in Pamphylia: and John departing from them returned to Jerusalem. (Acts 13:13 KJV)

At this point John Mark defects from the company and returns home.

But Paul thought not good to take him with them, who departed from them from Pamphylia, and went not with them to the work. (Acts 15:38 KJV)

Paul and Mark reconcile

Only Luke is with me. **Take Mark, and bring him with thee: for he is profitable to me for the ministry.** (2 Tim. 4:11 KJV)

The *church that is* at Babylon, elected together with *you*, saluteth you; and *so doth Marcus my son*. (1 Pet. 5:13 KJV)

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 13:14 KJV)

The scene shifts to Pisidian Antioch

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. (Acts 13:15 KJV)

The 3 sections of the Hebrew Scriptures: The Law, Prophets, and the Writings

And he said unto them, These *are* the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were **written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me.** (Lk. 24:44 KJV)

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

Jews and “God fearers” are addressed.

These are Gentile proselytes.

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. (Acts 13:17 KJV)

Paul reminds them of the Exodus from Egypt

And about the time of **forty years** suffered he their manners in the wilderness. (Acts 13:18 KJV)

The Lord put with their constant complaining

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

Note: The Lord destroyed them- not the Israelites!

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

Larkin lays this out in Dispensational Truth.

He points out that the period was 591 years.

Once you subtract the servitudes it comes to 490 years which 70 weeks of years.

Larkin has 4 periods of 490 years:

Abraham to the Exodus

Exodus to the Dedication of the Temple

And it came to pass in the four hundred and eightieth year after the children of Israel were come out of the land of Egypt, in the fourth year of Solomon's reign over Israel, in the month Zif, which *is* the second month, that he began to build the house of the LORD. (1 Kings 6:1 KJV)

Dedication of the Temple to the Edict of Artaxerxes

From Artaxerxes to the 2nd Advent

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. (Acts 13:21 KJV)

450 plus 40 is 490 or 70 weeks of years.

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. (Acts 13:22 KJV)

God removed the king Israel wanted and placed His king on the throne.

Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion. ⁷ I will declare the decree: the LORD hath said unto me, Thou *art* my Son; this day have I begotten thee. (Ps. 2:6-7 KJV)

It begins with David but is fulfilled in Jesus

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

Jesus is of the seed of David. If He is not then who is?

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

Here is the transition from the Gospel of the Kingdom to the Gospel of the Grace of God.

John's message: The Temple is run by corrupt people. The sacrifices are offered by corrupt people. I am announcing the coming of the Messiah. If you are waiting for Him, come and confess your sins and be baptized in the Jordan River.

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. (Acts 13:25 KJV)

John was not the Messiah. He was the forerunner.

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. (Mal. 3:1 KJV)

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

Paul identifies the targets in his audience

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.** (Acts 13:27 KJV)

The rulers did not know the Messiah

They also did not know the scriptures they read every Sabbath day.

They actually fulfilled them by condemning Him

Human intention: foil the plan of God

Illustration: The brothers of Joseph thought they were eliminating a rival.

But as for you, ye thought evil against me; *but* God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as *it is* this day, to save much people alive. (Gen. 50:20 KJV)

Joseph is a type of Christ in 150 particulars (according to A.W. Pink).

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

Here is one example of many:

Pilate saith unto them, What shall I do then with Jesus which is called Christ? *They* all say unto him, Let him be crucified. ²³ And the governor said, **Why, what evil hath he done?** But they cried out the more, saying, Let him be crucified. ²⁴ When Pilate saw that he could prevail nothing, but *that rather a tumult was made*, he took water, and washed *his* hands before the multitude, saying, **I am innocent of the blood of this just person: see ye to it.** ²⁵ Then answered all the people, and said, **His blood be on us, and on our children.** ²⁶ Then released he Barabbas unto them: and when he had scourged Jesus, **he delivered him to be crucified.** (Matt. 27:22-26 KJV)

And when they had fulfilled all that was written of him, they took *him* down from the tree, and laid *him* in a sepulchre. (Acts 13:29 KJV)

Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and **foreknowledge of God**, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain: (Acts 2:23 KJV)

This is the extent of predestination or determinism. It applies to the prophecies concerning Jesus. Note the role “**foreknowledge**” plays in the “**determinate counsel.**”

But God raised him from the dead: (Acts 13:30 KJV)

Note the disjunctive conjunction: “But God”!

The resurrection is the heart of the Gospel.

And he was seen many days of them which came up with him from Galilee to Jerusalem, who are his witnesses unto the people. (Acts 13:31 KJV)

This is all based on Eyewitness testimony. Why would they lie about it?

- Why die for a deception that you know is not true
- The apostles would know whether they fabricated the resurrection.

And we declare unto you glad tidings, how that the promise which was made unto the fathers, (Acts 13:32 KJV)

The glad tidings is another name of the Gospel.

Then Paul cites a reference from the Hebrew Scriptures:

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.** (Acts 13:33 KJV)