

August 13, 2023

Acts 13:4-12

“Some Do, Some Don’t, Some Will, Some Won’t”

PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICAL APPLICATION

The Holy Spirit is their source of authority for this campaign, not the church in Antioch. One theologian estimated from March to July for the duration of their stay in Cyprus.

V 4, directed by the Holy Spirit they went down to the coast to Seleucia. This was 16 miles from Antioch. They left there and went to the isle of Cyprus. In the OT this island was known as Kittim. This was the home turf of Barnabas. Go where He sends you.

The miracle dumbfounded the proconsul. The undeniable power manifested by the Holy Spirit connected with the teaching/doctrine of the Lord Jesus resulted in saving belief! There is power in the message of the gospel of Jesus Christ, Jesus saves!

Paul was from the tribe of Benjamin. It is possible that his dad named him after Saul, the king in their Jewish history. He was also a Roman citizen, a good thing in his day. So, just like we have middle names, so did Saul who was also named Paul. Paul was a name that would be more palatable to the Gentiles to whom he was sent. Use the tools at your disposal to help propagate the gospel message. Paul would use this name given him and his Roman citizenship to his advantage and all for the glory of God. Paul was designated the apostle to the Gentiles, **Romans 11:13**, but he first would go to the synagogues in each new town.

From this point on Luke will only call him Paul, when Paul is quoted giving his testimony later on in the book of Acts one will see Paul himself refer to himself as Saul simply because that is what is historically accurate. The Bible is absolutely reliable and true. It is all we need to live life pleasing to God, see **II Timothy 3:10-17**; **Romans 15:15-18**; **Galatians 1:15-16**. Note **Galatians 2:7**, Peter’s main focus was to the Jews, however, God used him greatly in some of the first outreach to the Gentiles! Go!

Elymas’ temporary blindness is the first recorded miracle of the apostle Paul.

Application:

Like Peter and Paul, go where He sends you and make the most of every encounter you have along the way. It is the Holy Spirit working in you that makes all the difference. People need the Lord, grasp every opportunity you have to share the good news, Jesus saves! Expect opposition. Rely on the power of the gospel message.