

September 3, 2023
Acts 13:42-52
“Responses, Resilience, Results”

PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICAL APPLICATION

Opposition to the gospel is directed not so much against the messengers as against the content of the message—Jesus Himself. Opposition to the gospel is blasphemy.

Jesus’ directions were followed, if they are not receptive, dust off your shoes and move on. See **Matthew 10:14**.

The gospel is divisive, see **Matthew 10:34-36**. Preaching the gospel today has the same effect, it divides people and puts them at odds with one another. It boils down to this, those who love Truth and those who reject Truth.

V 52, Paul left town, but God did not. The new disciples were filled with the Holy Spirit Who filled their hearts with Joy.

Meditate on **Isaiah 49:6** and **Luke 2:32**.

Application:

Evangelism is filled with ups and downs. The downs come when the ones you are witnessing to reject your message of, Jesus saves. In reality they are not rejecting you, they are rejecting the Lord Jesus Christ. Do not be surprised if the very ones you are reaching out to persecute you and even turn others against you as they rally their troops. After you have been faithful to the Lord in sharing the gospel, if the response is negative, shake the dust off your shoes and walk on to the next assignment.

On the other hand, often you will share Jesus with someone and they will be gloriously born again. When you go on your way they will be left behind to share the good news with others you would never get to meet. They will be filled with joy and the Holy Spirit. Like in our text today, they will go on their way fulfilling their mission and the whole region in which they live will be saturated with the good news.

Remember in all of this, we are the seed sowers and waterers, the Lord God is the Author Of Salvation. He knows those who are His from before the foundations of the world were set in place, it is our pleasure/responsibility to be His hands and feet to go out of our door, across our region and to the uttermost parts of the earth with this message that brings hope and joy. Do not grow weary in doing good, “And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.” **Galatians 6:9**, NKJV