



Acts: Response in Pisidian Antioch

May 3

INTRODUCTION: Acts: *Jesus' work, through the Apostles and disciples, by the Holy Spirit, to fulfil Acts 1:8.* Paul is on his 1st missionary journey and after touring Cyprus finds himself inland at Pisidian Antioch (to differentiate it from Syrian Antioch). He has just preached to the synagogue and now we turn to the response.



KEY POINT: response, boldness election, persecution, joy

A.M. SERMON RECAP (Acts 13:4–12, Cyprus)

- Who is a missionary?
- What did we learn about this mission?
- What did we learn about missions?

P.M. SERMON RECAP (Acts 13:13–41, Pisidian Antioch)

- Why did Paul choose Antioch? Why did he begin at the synagogue?
- Paul was speaking to Jews. How is our audience key to determining how we should present the Gospel?
- How might we share the Gospel with the religious, remembering to share salvation's history, focus on Christ and present a choice?

READ: Acts 13:42–52

QUESTIONS:

1. *Whenever the Gospel is shared there is a response (either acceptance or rejection [even a not yet is a rejection]). In our passage we might consider the response as three concentric circles:*

Synagogue, vv. 42–43

2. *One must remember this is their first time hearing the Gospel!*
3. What was their reception by the people (not the “Jews” or the Jewish leaders)?

4. **Did any come to faith; how do we know?**

A Crowded Gathering, v. 44–47

5. **If more than the synagogue had gathered, what must have happened over the course of the week?**
6. *The word of the Lord is more than the Bible, it is the Gospel.*
7. **Why would the Jewish leaders been so jealous if the people were so interested? (Can you think of modern parallels?)**
8. How do you think they contradicted and reviled Paul?
9. How were they bold? How is this an example to us?
10. *To thrust aside is to deliberately reject. Ro 9–11 speaks of a partial hardness coming over many ethnic Jews. It wasn't that Paul no longer evangelized the Jews but that more and more his focus would be expanded, in fulfilment of God's plan (Gen 12; Isa 49:6).*

The Community, vv. 48–52

11. **Why did the Gentiles rejoice?**

12. *V. 48b- the doctrine of election is that God has chosen a people to save for himself not based upon works or foreseen faith but according to His good pleasure (note we don't preach election, it is a background teaching that is brought in for the sake of believers [i.e. the elect]).* **Remembering Acts was written for a**

Christian, Theophilus, how does election give us hope in evangelism? (If none were elected why would there be no hope?)

13. **Unable to stop the Gospel spreading like wildfire by their tactics, what did the Jews resort to? What do you think this looked like?**

14. *To shake the dust off your feet at them is a sign they've done all they could, the Jews were responsible for their decision.* **Discuss.**
15. *Writing to these very Galatians Paul spoke about joy (Gal 5:22). How did their joy transcend their circumstances?*

NEXT: May 10- Acts 14:1–7, Iconium