



Paul and Barnabas

April 28

OVERVIEW: [Acts 13–28](#)

CONTEXT: Paul, a missionary to the Gentiles, along with Barnabas, have set out on the adventure of Paul's first missionary journey (the other Apostles had other missions). From their sending church in Antioch (1st Gentile congregation and where Christians first got their name), they begin their travels west to the island of Cyprus. The Church is moving outwards (Acts 1:8)!

FIRST, A.M. SERMON RECAP (Acts 10)

- Why is being a God-fearer not enough?
- What was a god-fearer?
- What did you find challenging or helpful about this message?
- Other points of interest from this chapter....

READ: Acts 13:1–12

QUESTIONS:

1. *V. 1 mentions prophets (see: Cor 12:10). This has been used or has been understood in one of 3 ways: someone reports something the Lord brings to mind, someone before the New Testament to whom the Lord spoke to the Church, or that it was similar to preaching. It was sometimes used evangelistically to disclose hidden the secrets of believers and lead them to faith.*
2. *Worship and fasting and prayer and fasting are mentioned in v.2 and v.3. **Why do you think these acts accompany the Spirit's direction?***
3. *V. 3- The "the laying on of hands" is when the Church acknowledges someone's calling and gifting for a particular ministry, usually an office within the Church. It is a prayerful act asking the Holy Spirit to bless their ministry. It can also refer to healing and in unique examples is linked with conversion (1 Ti 5:22; 2 Ti 1:6; Heb 6:2)*

4. *Key characters: We encountered Barnabas in Acts 4:36, who was from Cyprus. In Acts 9:15 we know God had called Paul to a mission to the Gentiles. John, is Mark, who wrote the Gospel of Mark, but at this stage in his journey, did not continue on the mission (v. 5). This later led to a division between Barnabas and Paul (Acts 15:27); and through this second chance and discipleship he was later helpful to Paul (2 Ti 4:11).*
5. *V. 5 (See Map)- Some believers already existed in Cyprus (Acts 11:20). It made sense to land here and travel west along the Roman road to the key city. Salamis was the site of an ancient temple to Aphrodite. Paphos was the head of the Roman government.*
6. **Paul regularly began his evangelism at Jewish synagogues (17:1–2). Why do you think this was?**
7. *V. 6 passes over much of their ministry on the island to a key episode with a Jewish magician. **Why is that an odd combination? Is magic real? Why does the Bible speak against it? (Dt 18:10–12)***
8. **Why do you think he was with the Proconsul? Why was Paul and Barnabas such a threat to him? Why did he seek to keep the Proconsul from the faith? Can you think of people who oppose the Gospel on these grounds today?**
9. *What do you think it means, the Proconsul "was a man of intelligence"?*
10. *V. 10- What spurred Paul on to make such a bold statement? What did he mean by it? Do we tend to rebuke today, why or why not? (see 2 Tim 3:16).*
11. *V. 11- As an authoritative apostle Paul commands a temporary curse upon this man. What effect did it have? How does the Lord sometimes use miracles or answered pray to lead people to faith?*

NEXT TIME: May 5, James 5

