

Acts 13-16

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: Acts 13-16.

B. Subject: the beginning of the journeys of Paul and Barnabas.

II. When a man is trained he can go anywhere if he is trained to do a work.

A. The Christian has been given the Great Commission, and if a man is trained to do that, he can go anywhere.

B. We are separated for a work.

C. We are instructed to pray for laborers.

III. If we see someone behaving inappropriately we should meet that person, and if the brother has offended us he should come to us. We need to meet each other half way.

IV. The only constant in this world is change - God alone can be trusted.

V. God has a way of bringing back the hopeless and making them profitable as He did wayward Mark.

A. Never teach a lesson - teach the person.

B. We must serve our own generation by the will of God.

VI. Paul's mission was to proclaim the gospel, not transient philosophies.

A. The effect of truth upon a man is conditioned by the opening or closing of a man's mind.
(Luke 8:15)

B. People responded spitefully to Paul.

C. In order for a message to touch the heart, it must come from the heart.

D. If you are going to share what the Word, know what you are talking about and mean what you say from the heart.

VII. Paul faced two problems: opposition to conversion and adulation from men.

A. God's truth does not need the help of man's lie to accomplish what it needs to.

B. Paul's example shows you cannot keep a good man down.

VIII. Converts must be confirmed because they are apt to waver and continue.

- A. To retain is often as difficult as to acquire.
- B. People enter into the kingdom through much tribulation.
- C. Most of the time God will circumvent suffering in our life, but trouble will come. (2 Timothy 3:10)
- D. Paul went back to do follow up and risked his life to do it.
- E. The only way the heart will be purified is by faith in Jesus Christ.
- F. Paul's journey had a follow up focus. (Proverbs 27:23)
- G. Paul chose Silas over Mark because of Mark's failure. (Proverbs 25:19)

IX. The conversion of the jailer.

X. Paul sited large quantities of Scripture and gave his testimony. Store away the Word of God to be effective in ministry. (Acts 28:23, 22:26, Revelation 1:9)

Application questions

- 1. Why is it important to share God's truth from the heart?

- 2. What events in Scripture support the importance of follow up? Explain.

- 3. Why is the Christian life not necessarily always one of comfort? In what ways have you suffered, and how does the Scripture bring light to those times?

