

## **The Promise Fulfilled**

Acts 13:16-41
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October 25, 2020

Acts 13 includes the first record of a sermon preached by Paul; this one happening in a synagogue in Pisidian Antioch. In that sermon, Paul described how God promised a Savior in the Old Testament, who came in the person of Jesus. Then he urged his audience to trust in Jesus for the forgiveness of their sins. Through Paul's preaching, we are reminded of our own need to stand on the authority of God's Word and to clearly point to Jesus Christ.

Acts 13 and 14 give Luke's record of Paul's First Missionary Journey

Much of the preaching in Acts had two goals:

To remind Jewish audiences of the truth of the Old Testament promises and prophecies. To explain and prove how those promises were fulfilled in Jesus of Nazareth.

Paul's Sermon to Pisidian Antioch

1. The Promise of Good News (13:16-25)

2. The Fulfillment of Good News (13:26-37)

Two lessons for Christians to Apply to our Evangelism from Paul's Sermon	
	1. Rely on the truth and authority of God's Word
	2. Point to Jesus Christ, as God's Word does
Questions to Consider	
1.	Consider the quote by James Boice about Christianity being "a proclamation of facts that concern what God has done," and our need "to learn first to conform our thinking and conduct to these facts and to proclaim not our own ideas but these very facts to other people." Do you agree or disagree? Why?
2.	Who is the primary actor in the first part of Paul's sermon (13:15-22) and why is this important in the context of his sermon? How is Paul demonstrating God's authority, and how might we apply that in our own evangelism?
3.	What do we learn about God from his raising up of David to be Israel's king? And, what were the Israelites taught to expect from the descendants of David?
4.	Paul emphasized the promise of Old Testament scriptures in explaining the resurrection of Jesus. Why is it important that the resurrection of the Messiah can be seen in the Old Testament?
5.	Do you have several Bible verses in mind that you could use to explain the gospel of Jesus Christ to an unbeliever? If so, what are they? Do they communicate the basic elements of who God is, man's sin and need of salvation, and the life and work of Jesus? If not, would you take time this week to pray for wisdom in this area?

3. The Warning to Not Reject the Good News (13:38-43)

6. What was the nature of Paul's final exhortation to his audience? Why is it important to

**7.** As believers, we must be a people who rely on the truth and authority of God's Word in our evangelism and throughout all of life. What are some ways you are tempted to rely

warn people of the danger of rejecting Jesus?

on something other than God's Word?