



## **I. The Uniqueness of the Gospel (13:32 – 37)**

Verse 32

[and]

“We tell you (euaggelizo = to preach) the good news:  
What God promised (epaggelia = an  
announcement of promise) **our ancestors** (pater =  
the fathers)

Verse 33

he [that God (hoti theos)] has fulfilled (ekpleroo = fill to  
overflowing) for us,  
their children,  
by raising up Jesus.  
As it is written

in the second Psalm: (Psalm 2:7)

“You are my son;  
today I have become your father.’ (gennaō = to  
begotten = to give birth through a Father)

Jesus Christ is the unique Son of God. He was not just a good man, not just a prophet, not a teacher or a rabbi, but the “Only Begotten Son” of God (John 1:14,18,3:16, 3:18). Over 100 times in the Gospels Jesus called God His Father. First, the deity of Christ is the central issue and the unique basis for the gospel.

Verse 34

God raised him from the dead  
so that  
he will never be subject to decay. (diaphthora = The  
corruption which comes from the natural decay of the body in  
death)

As God has said,

“I will give you the holy  
and sure blessings  
[promised to] David.’

Luke plays the “David Card”!

This quote appears to be from Isaiah 55:3. Second, the prophetic proof of Christ as the ultimate fulfillment of the David Covenant since Christ is in the lineage (household) of David – which makes the unique message of Christ valid for all.

Verse 35

So it is also stated elsewhere:

“You will not let  
your holy one see decay.’

From Psalm 16:10, this reference speaks to the unique truth that Christ would not be left in death but would rise to physical and spiritual life.

Verse 36

“Now when David

- 1) had served God’s purpose  
in his own generation,
- 2) he fell asleep;
- 3) he was buried  
with his ancestors
- 4) and his body decayed.

David cannot be the subject of his own prophecies, because we died and his body was destroyed through the corruption of decay – Christ however, did not suffer this natural decay of death!

Verse 37

**But** - contrast  
the one whom God raised  
from the dead  
did not see decay.

The bodily resurrection of Christ is the primary proof of the deity  
1 of Christ!

## **II. The Call to Repentance (13:38 – 41)**

### Verse 38

“**Therefore**, my friends, [Rational conclusion of the message]  
I want you to know (gnostos = well known with surety)  
that **through Jesus**  
the forgiveness (aphesis = release/freedom/remission/pardon)  
of sins (harmatia = missing the mark)  
is **proclaimed** (kataggelio) **to you**.

The primary problem of humanity is SIN and the ONLY answer to that problem is JESUS!

The basis of Paul’s argument is this – The forgiveness or remission of the penalty of disobedience to God can ONLY be forgiven by a divine person (the perfect lamb) who fulfills the absolute requirement of the law of God. (Eph. 2:8,9)

### Verse 39

[and] – conclusion continues

**Through him** [Jesus]  
everyone (pas) **who believes** (pisteuo)  
is set free (dikaioo)  
from every (pas) **sin**,  
[a justification]  
you were not able to obtain [to be freed]  
under [through] **the law of Moses**.

Paul then plays the “Moses Card”!

Not only is Jesus THE one prophesied by David and promised to David, but He and His Way is the ultimate fulfillment of the Mosaic Law.

The call is to believe in this Christ! If you believe – the debt owed to God (justification) can be obtained by grace what you were NOT able to obtain by following the law of God.

### Verse 40

[Therefore] – secondary conclusion

**Take care** (blepo = to see with the heart/perceive)  
that what the prophets have said  
does not happen to you:

This is the crisis point of this message!

Beware that you don’t miss this opportunity!

### Verse 41

“ **Look**, [behold!] you scoffers,  
wonder and perish,  
for I am going to do something  
in your days  
that you would never believe,  
even if someone told you.’ ”

This scripture is a reference to Habakkuk 1:5. This prophetic warning was to Jerusalem as the attack of the Chaldeans.

The Jews rejected this prophecy and faced destruction!

## **III . The Response to the Gospel (13:42 - 45)**

### Verse 42

#### 1) The Positive Reactions:

As Paul and Barnabas were leaving  
the synagogue,  
the people invited them (parakaleo = to beg/implore)  
to speak further  
about these things  
on the next Sabbath.

The receptivity factor! People who request further information are an open door to present the truth!

### Verse 43

[now]

When the congregation was dismissed,  
1) many of the Jews  
2) and devout converts to Judaism  
followed Paul and Barnabas,  
who talked with them  
and urged them to continue (prosmeno = hold fast/cleave)  
in the grace of God.

The young Christians were the most hungry to grow further. Paul challenged these new converts to stay faithful.

### Verse 44

On the next Sabbath  
almost the whole city gathered  
2 to hear the word of the Lord.

Verse 45

2) Negative Reactions:

[but]

When the Jews saw the crowds,  
they were filled with jealousy. (zelos = filled with malice)  
They began to contradict  
what Paul was saying  
and heaped abuse on him. (blasphemeo = To tear down the  
character/honor of someone)

**IV . The Rise of Persecution (13:46 - 52)**

Verse 46

Then Paul and Barnabas  
answered them boldly: (parresiazomai = confident/freedom  
demeanor)

“We had to speak  
the word of God to you first.  
Since you reject it (apotheo = to cast away)  
and do not consider yourselves (krino = judge)  
worthy of eternal life,

[behold!]

we now turn to the Gentiles.

Paul explains the call to the Gentiles! Romans 1:16 – “...to the  
Jew first, then to the Gentiles”. Jesus came to his own but his  
own rejected him (John 1:11) but to those who receive him, to  
those... (John 1:12). Paul speaks to those who are receptive!

Verse 47

For

this is what the Lord has commanded us:

“ ‘I have made you a light  
for the Gentiles,  
that you may bring salvation  
to the ends of the earth.’ ”

Another great commission!

Look back at Isaiah 49:6 – The larger vision of God is to reach  
the world with His salvation.

Verse 48

When the Gentiles heard this,  
they were 1) glad (chairō = cheerfully greeting)  
and 2) honored (doxazo = praise/extol/celebrate)  
the word of the Lord;  
and all who were appointed  
for eternal life 3) believed. (pisteuo = conviction of trust)  
This is good news! God loves the Gentiles and offers them  
forgiveness of sin and eternal life with Him!

Verse 49

The word of the Lord  
spread through the whole region.  
Those who are convinced are contagious!  
The truth spreads like a fire!

Verse 50

But

the Jewish leaders

incited (parotryno = to stir up)

- 1) the God-fearing women  
of high standing
- 2) and the leading men  
of the city.

They stirred up (epegeiro = to raise up) persecution  
against Paul and Barnabas,  
and expelled them (ekballo = to drive out by force/pressure)  
from their region.

For every positive force that increases – we should expect an  
equal and opposite negative (evil) force to arise.

Verse 51

So  
they shook the dust  
off their feet  
as a warning to them  
and went to Iconium.

Paul and Barnabas practiced  
Jesus' principle of "dust off  
Your feet and move on"  
(Matt. 10:14). Again go where  
People are receptive to the message.

Iconium is about 45 miles southeast of Antioch Pisidia.

Verse 52

And the disciples  
were filled (pleroo = continually filled to overflowing)  
1) with joy  
2) and with the Holy Spirit.

Even in the midst of persecution an attitude of joy and continual  
relationship with the Holy Spirit is filling their lives.



Paul's First Missionary Journey