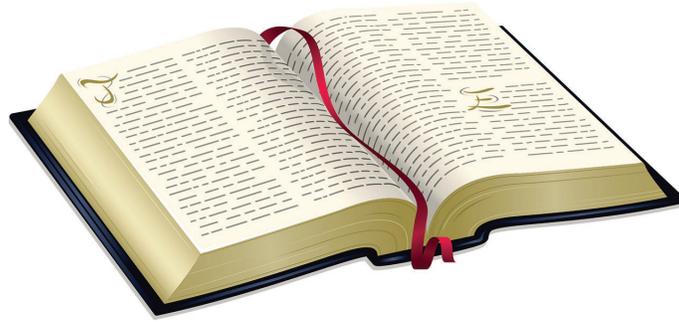


toServe Bible Study - WHS-10



Acts - Lesson 4 of 7

Chapters 13 - 16

Answer Sheet for New Living Translation (NLT)

Chapter 13

Please read all of Acts Chapter 13 Check

1. (v. 13:1) Chapter 13 starts off telling of five prophets and teachers that were at the church at Antioch. Please list them below.

1. Barnabas 2. Simeon 3. Lucius
4. Manaen 5. Saul

Manaen who had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch: This Manaen mentioned here grew up with Herod the tetrarch. This was the same Herod who beheaded John the Baptist and presided over one of Jesus' trials (Luke 23:7-12).

Herod and Manaen grew up together, but went very different ways. One killed John the Baptist and presided over one of the trials of Jesus before His crucifixion. The other became a Christian and a leader in the dynamic congregation at Antioch.

2. (v. 13:2) *As these men ministered/worshipping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit separates/sets apart/appoints two men, to which I have called.* Name these two?

1. Barnabas 2. Saul

Note:

For the work to which I have called them. Acts 13:2b: God had a specific work He had appointed to Barnabas and Saul to do. Paul would later write in **Ephesians 2:10:** *For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.* Here, God called Barnabas and Saul to those kind of good works.

The calling God had for the life of Paul had already been stated in **Acts 9:15-16:** *He is a chosen vessel of Mine to bear My name before Gentiles, kings, and the children of Israel. For I will show him how many things he must suffer for My name’s sake.*

This was not a touchy-feely “feel good” call – it was a serious call to a serious ministry.

3. (v. 13:5) As you read through Acts, as well as the four Gospels, and you come across the name John, always stop and ask yourself: What John is this?

Verse 5 ends with: *John was with them as their assistant/helper.* Which John is this?

- 1. John the Baptist
- 2. Apostle John
- 3. John, Peter’s father
- 4. John Mark

4. (vs. 13:6-10) After Saul and Barnabas had arrived at Paphos, they found a Jewish sorcerer and false prophet named Bar-Jesus, (also named Elymas). He was with the proconsul (governor), Sergius Paulus, a man of intelligence, who summoned Barnabas and Saul and sought to hear the word of God. But Elymas the sorcerer withstood them, seeking to turn the proconsul away from the faith. Then Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, looked intently at him and said what?

“You son of the devil, full of every sort of deceit and fraud, and enemy of all that is good! Will you never stop perverting the true ways of the Lord?”

Notes:

Then Saul, who also is called Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, looked straight at Elymas.

Acts 13:9.

It was common for people in that day to have names that were similar yet different according to the language or culture they were in. Certainly, Saul’s given name was Saul, a Jewish name after the first king of Israel. But his Roman name was Paul – which meant “Little” and sounded similar to “Saul.”

5. (vs. 13:11-12) After Saul said what he said to Bar-Jesus in verse 10, what happened to him?

Instantly mist and darkness came over the man's eyes, and he began groping around begging for someone to take his hand and lead him.

6. (v. 13:12) What became of the proconsul (governor/deputy) after he witnessed what happened to Bar-Jesus?

When the governor saw what had happened, he became a believer, for he was astonished at the teaching about the Lord.

7. (v. 13:13) When Paul and his party/companions set sail for Perga, what did John do?

John Mark left them and returned to Jerusalem.

Notes:

The Antioch mentioned here in chapter 13, verse 14 is Antioch Pisidia, not to be confused with the main Christian hub, Antioch of Syrian (Acts 11:26).

*They departed from **Perga**, they came to Antioch in Pisidia Acts 13:14:*

Perga was a costal, harbor city, where the ship from Paphos came to the mainland. Antioch in Pisidia was about 135 miles inland, to the north. This general region was known as **Galatia**, and later Paul wrote a letter to these churches that is included in the New Testament.

*Went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day and sat down. And after the reading of the Law and the Prophets **Acts 13:15**.*

A first-century synagogue service followed a general order. Opening prayers were offered, and then there was a reading from the Law (the first five books of the Old Testament). Then, a reading from the Prophets. Then, if there was an educated person present, they were invited to speak on subjects related to the readings.

8. (vs. 13:14-23) As you read through the parts of Acts that describe Paul's three mission trips, you soon realize his pattern: When he would show up in a new town, he would go to the synagogue on the Sabbath and wait for a chance to speak. Most likely, chapter 13 verses 16-23 would always be his opening (in this instance, Paul's sermon lasted through verse 41). In his opening words, write out the verse that you think caused the most anger and emotion within the synagogue?

And it is one of King David's descendants, Jesus, who is God's promised Savior of Israel

9. (vs.13:44-46) On the following Sabbath almost the whole city came together to hear the word of God. When the Jews saw the crowd they were filled with envy and jealousy; so they slandered Paul and argued against whatever he said.

What was Paul's and Barnabas's response?

It was necessary that we first preach the word of God to you Jews. But since you have rejected it and judged yourselves unworthy of eternal life, we will offer it to the Gentiles.

10. Based on Acts 13:48, if you believe in the Good News of Jesus Christ, what does that mean about yourself? all who were chosen for eternal life became believers.

Note on Acts 13:48

Luke's writings here make a statement about predestination. Some of the Jews and Gentiles were "appointed" or chosen to be saved, and it is those who believed.

(see also **Romans 8:30; Ephesians 1:3–6, 11**). This shouldn't be hard to accept.

Anyone reading this can be saved. In order to know if you are chosen/appointed/ordained, **just believe**. (John 3:16–18; Romans 10:9).

If you believe, you know you were chosen!

11. (vs. 13:49-51) How did Paul and Barnabas respond to the Jewish leaders after they stirred up/incited the prominent women and chief men against them?

they shook the dust from their feet as a sign of rejection and went to the town of Iconium.

Chapter 14

Please read all of Acts Chapter 14 Check

1. (vs. 14:1-6) At Iconium Paul and Barnabas went into the Jewish synagogue. There they spoke effectively so that a great number of Jews and Greeks believed. But the unbelieving Jews stirred up the Gentiles and poisoned their minds against Paul and Barnabas . The city was divided, part with the Jews, and part with the apostles. What happened as a result?

they fled to the region of Lycaonia—to the towns of Lystra and Derbe

2. (v.14:7) After Paul and Barnabas got run out of Iconium, they fled to the surrounding area. What did they do as soon as they got there?

there they preached the Good News.

3. (vs. 14:8-10) In Lystra, Paul healed a certain man who had crippled feet since birth. What did Paul observe about this man before he was healed?

Paul realized he had faith to be healed.

4. (vs. 14:11-14) In your own words, tell of the misunderstanding of the Lystra people after they thought it was just Paul that had healed the man with crippled feet?

4. (vs. 14:19-20) What became of Paul after some Jews arrived from Antioch and Iconium, won the crowds to their side, and stoned him and dragged him out of the city for dead ?

as the believers gathered around him, he got up and went back into the town.

5. (vs. 14:21-22) When Paul and Barnabas returned to Lystra, Iconium and Antioch of Pisidia and were strengthening the disciples, they encouraged them to remain true to the faith. Rereminding them of what?

"we must suffer many hardships to enter the Kingdom of God."

6. (v. 14:23) Before they left the region, what did Paul and Barnabas do at every church?

appointed elders

7. (v. 14:27) When Paul and Barnabas had returned to Antioch in Syria, they called the church together. What was the main report to the church?

reported everything God had done through them and how he had opened the door of faith to the Gentiles

Paul's First Missionary Journey

Acts 13:4—14:26

Between A.D. 45-48



Chapter 15

Please read all of Acts Chapter 15 Check

Jerusalem Council:

In the earliest days of the Christian church, the church was comprised predominantly of Jews. In Acts chapter 8 the gospel spread to the Samaritans (who were ethnically mixed Jews-Gentiles), and many Samaritans received Jesus Christ as Savior. In Acts chapter 10, the Apostle Peter was the first to take the gospel specifically to the Gentiles, and many received Christ as Savior. In Acts chapters 13—14, Paul and Barnabas had a very fruitful ministry among the Gentiles. All of these Gentiles turning to faith in Christ caused concern among the Jewish believers, first expressed in Acts 11:1–18, and the issues that caused concern were ultimately decided upon at the Jerusalem Council (Acts 15).

The issues centered on two questions:

Do Gentiles first have to become Jews before they can become Christians?

Do Gentiles have to observe the Mosaic Law after they become Christians?

1. (v. 15:1) While Paul and Barnabas were at Antioch of Syria, some men from Judea arrived and began to teach what false teachings?

“Unless you are circumcised as required by the law of Moses, you cannot be saved.”

2. (v. 15:2) When persuasion did not end the issue, what was decided that Paul, Barnabas, and certain others should do?

to talk to the apostles and elders about this question.

3. (v. 15:5) When they came to Jerusalem, they were welcomed by the church and the apostles and elders, to whom they reported everything. Once there they discovered two other demands that some of the believing Pharisees had. What were they?

1. The Gentile converts must be circumcised

2. required to follow the law of Moses.

4. (v. 15:22) The Jerusalem Council wisely sent two members of its own community with Paul and Barnabas back to Antioch, the place where the whole dispute arose.

What were these two men's names?

1. Judas (also called Barsabbas) 2. Silas

5. (v. 15:23) The Jerusalem Council wrote a letter of church doctrine that was sent back with Paul and Barnabas stating the decision of the council. Who was this letter addressed to? The Jews or the Gentiles? the Gentiles

6. (v. 15:27) Why did the Council send Judas and Silas back with Paul and Barnabas with the written decision?

to confirm what we have decided concerning your question.

7. (v.15:29) There were things that the council wrote that they must abstain from. What were they?

abstain from eating food offered to idols, from consuming blood or the meat of strangled animals, and from sexual immorality.

8. (vs. 15:36) Some time later, after Judas and Silas had encouraged and strengthened the believers, Paul and Barnabas made a decision to do what?

"Let's go back and visit each city where we previously preached the word of the Lord, to see how the new believers are doing."

What did Silas decide to do? He went with Paul.

Notes:

John Mark had previously left the missionary party, under what seemed to be less than honorable circumstances (Acts 13:13). This probably made Paul unwilling to trust him on future endeavors.

9. (v. 15:38) Why did Paul not want to take John Mark on his and Barnabas' next trip?

since John Mark had deserted them in Pamphylia and had not continued with them in their work.

10. (vs. 15:38-40) After the sharp disagreement between Paul and Barnabas over John Mark, what did they decide to do?

Barnabas took John Mark with him and sailed for Cyprus. Paul chose Silas,

They parted from one another:

So Paul (accompanied by Silas) and Barnabas (accompanied by Mark) split, each going out to different fields of ministry.

It is hard to know if their personal relationship was strained for a prolonged period. As Christians, we are commanded to resolve relationship problems with others before we present ministry to God (Matthew 5:23-24). It is always wrong to step over people in the name of ministry, and when it happens it must be made right.

There is no doubt God used this division; but this can never be casually used as an excuse for carnal division. God can redeem good out of evil, yet we are all held accountable for the evil we do, even if God ends up bringing good out of the evil. Either Paul or Barnabas – probably both – had to get this right with God and each other.

Later, Paul came to minister with John Mark and to value his contributions to the work of God (Colossians 4:10; Philemon 1:24; 2 Timothy 4:11). We don't know if it was Mark who changed or Paul who changed. Probably God had a work to do in both of them!

Paul's Second Missionary Journey

Acts 15:36 — 18:22

Between A.D. 50-52



Chapter 16

Please read all of Acts Chapter 16 Check

1. (v. 16:1-3) For the first time we are introduced to Timothy. What three things do we learn about him?

1. His mother was a Jewish believer

2. his father was a Greek

3. was well thought of by the believers

2. (v. 16:3) What did Timothy have to have done before he could go with Paul?
circumcised

Why did Timothy have to have this done before he could go with Paul?

for everyone knew that his father was a Greek

3. (vs. 16:6-10) After the Holy Spirit forbidden/prevented them from preaching the word in Asia, they passed by Mysia and came down to Troas. There, Paul had a vision of a man from Macedonia pleading with him. What did Paul conclude from this vision?

concluded that God was calling us to preach the Good News to the Macedonians.

4. (vs. 16:16-19) Write down in your own words why Paul and Silas were seized and dragged to face the authorities, after they had met a female slave?

5. (vs. 16:19-21) After the incident with the female slave, Paul and Silas were arrested by the magistrates. What was the charge that the people were bringing against them?

"They are teaching customs that are illegal for us Romans to practice."

6. (vs. 16:25-31) About midnight, while Paul and Silas were in jail, they were singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening. Suddenly there was a violent earthquake and all the prison doors flew open and everyone's chains came loose. The jailer woke and drew his sword and was about to kill himself, because he thought the prisoners had escaped. Paul shouted, "Don't harm yourself! We are here". The jailer rushed in and fell trembling before Paul and Silas. What did he ask?

"Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"

How did they reply?

"Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved,"

7. (vs. 16:35-39) When the jailers came and told Paul and Silas that the magistrates had ordered that they be released. But Paul said to the officers: "They beat us publicly without a trial, and threw us into prison. And now do they want to get rid of us quietly? No! Let them come themselves and escort us out." What did the magistrates discover about Paul and Silas that alarmed them? (also read Acts 22:28, Act 16:37)

They were Romans citizens

A verse to underline and memorize

*And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God,
by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.
Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor,
and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice.
And be kind to one another, tenderhearted,
forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you*
Ephesians 4:30-32 (NKJV)

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