

**Paul and Barnabas in Antioch/Pisidia and beyond**

**Mike Lewis**

**Background:**

The focus of Acts now moves to Saul/Paul and, his missionary journeys and trips back to Jerusalem. Acts continues its mad dash around the Roman Empire filled with adventures, trials, successes and failures as the early church spread and grew. So much was *not* recorded, so we will just have to make do with what Luke did write and *try to avoid too much speculation!*

**Scripture:**

Skim-read Acts 13 in an easy-to-read version (such as Contemporary English Version or similar) so you can get a general idea of what's going on, then re-read in a standard version (such as NRSV, New King James or similar) to get a better idea of the details, some of which we will be studying this week

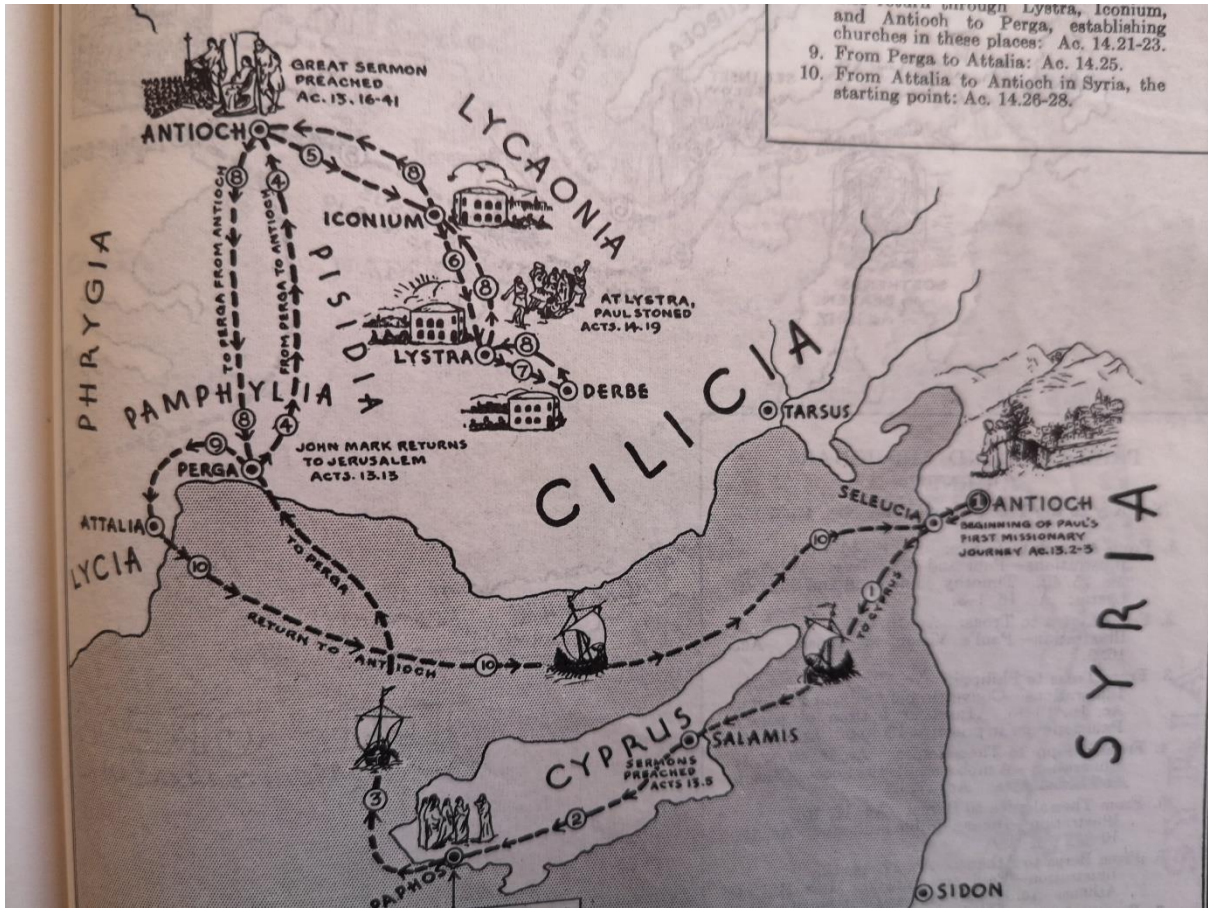
Also read Galatians 1:13 - 2:14

**Resources:**

Check out the "Map of Paul's 1<sup>st</sup> Missionary Journey" on p.2 and familiarise yourself with the places that Paul and his team visited

**Questions for discussion:**

1. Paul, Barnabas and John (Mark) arrive in Paphos in south-west Cyprus and meet the pro-consul Sergius Paulus and his magician (sorcerer) Elymas. What do you make of the story as written in 13:6 – 12?
2. Paul and his team cross to Perga and travel up-country to Antioch/P. What does v5 tell us about Paul's methodology?
3. In 13:16 – 41 Paul preaches a sermon in the synagogue in Antioch/P. What is *missing* from verses 26 – 30? What effect on his audience did this *NOT* have? (Clue: read Acts 2:22 – 23)
4. How surprising (shocking?) was Paul's statement about forgiveness (vs 38, 39) to his hearer's?
5. Vs 43 & 48 suggest that Jews, converts and gentiles were seriously interested in what Paul was saying. Why?
6. Why were the Jews filled with jealousy? (v. 44 – 45)
7. How many "responses" can you find in vs 47 – 52? Based on your finding would you consider Paul's visit to Antioch/P a success or a failure?
8. How interested in/supportive of the "Mission to the Jews" movement should we be?



### Paul's 1<sup>st</sup> Missionary Journey

(from the Thompson Chain Reference Bible)