

PUBLISHING THE WORD OF GOD

ACTS 13:43-52

Text:

Introduction:

In Romans 1:16 we're reminded that the Gospel is the power of God. The word power is the same word that we derive the word dynamite. The Gospel will always have explosive effects both positively and negatively.

As Paul was continuing his ministry at Antioch in Pisidia in the Galatian region we see once again that he preached the whole counsel of God.

Note:

1. THE PREACHING OF THE WORD OF GOD (VS. 42-44)

Acts 13:42-44

⁴² And when the Jews were gone out of the synagogue, the Gentiles besought that these words might be preached to them the next sabbath. ⁴³ Now when the congregation was broken up, many of the Jews and religious proselytes followed Paul and Barnabas: who, speaking to them, persuaded them to continue in the

grace of God. ⁴⁴ And the next sabbath day came almost the whole city together to hear the word of God.

What was the response to Paul's preaching?

A. They desired the Word

They sought Paul to preach to them. They had a strong desire for the Scripture.

1 Peter 2:2-3

² As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby: ³ If so be ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious.

B. They determined to hear the Word

Even after the service at the synagogue was over the people "followed" Paul and asked them to continue preaching.

C. The displayed change from the Word.

I get concerned for Christians who are indifferent toward the Word of God and casual about their church attendance. Many modern churches actually disdain preaching.

- Teaching will burden you – Preaching will bother you.

- Teaching captures the mind – Preaching corrects the heart.
- Teaching leaves you concerned – Preaching leaves you convicted.
- Teaching leaves you comforted – Preaching leaves you corrected.
- Teaching will dazzle your mind – Preaching will deliver your soul.
- Teaching will flatter you – Preaching will forbid you.
- Teaching furnishes facts – Preaching forces a decision.
- Teaching helps you – Preaching humbles you.
- Teaching inspires you – Preaching instructs you.
- Teaching is lofty – Preaching is loud.
- Teaching is loved – Preaching is laughed at.
- Teaching is peaceful – Preaching is powerful.
- Teaching is popular – Preaching is profitable.

- Teaching is praised – Preaching is protested.
- Teaching is promoted – Preaching is protested.
- Teaching puff's it up – Preaching puts it down.
- Teaching points out the need – Preaching points out the answer.
- Teaching will reward you – Preaching will rebuke you.
- Teaching reaches around the problem – Preaching roots out the problem.
- Teaching is received – Preaching is refused.
- Teaching will refresh you – Preaching will reveal you.
- Teaching can cause you to sleep – Preaching can cause you to shout.
- Teaching shows it off – Preaching shuts it down.
- Teaching tickles the ear – Preaching troubles the soul.
- Teaching leaves you thirsty – Preaching leaves you transformed.

2. THE PERSECUTION OF PREACHERS (VS 45, 50)

Acts 13:45

⁴⁵ But when the Jews saw the multitudes, they were filled with envy, and spake against those things which were spoken by Paul, contradicting and blaspheming.

Acts 13:50

⁵⁰ But the Jews stirred up the devout and honourable women, and the chief men of the city, and raised persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and expelled them out of their coasts.

A. The Jews were jealous

B. The Jews were blasphemous

1 Corinthians 12:3

³ Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost.

3. The Proclamation to the Gentiles (vs. 46-49, 51-52)

Acts 13:46-49

⁴⁶ Then Paul and Barnabas waxed bold, and said, It was necessary that the word of God should first have been spoken to you: but seeing ye put it from you, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, lo, we turn to

the Gentiles. ⁴⁷ For so hath the Lord commanded us, saying, I have set thee to be a light of the Gentiles, that thou shouldest be for salvation unto the ends of the earth. ⁴⁸ And when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad, and glorified the word of the Lord: and as many as were ordained to eternal life believed. ⁴⁹ And the word of the Lord was published throughout all the region.

Acts 13:51-52

⁵¹ But they shook off the dust of their feet against them, and came unto Iconium. ⁵² And the disciples were filled with joy, and with the Holy Ghost.

A. The Word is received.

The Gentiles were glad.

B. The Word is published.

C. The Word produced fruit.

God promises that His Word will work.

Isaiah 55:11

¹¹ So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

