

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

## ACTS 13:46-52 | LESSON SUMMARY

### The Whole City

**ACTS 13:44**, "The next Sabbath almost the whole city gathered to hear the word of the Lord." (ESV)

- The "whole city gathered"
- Paul met them where they were
  - Sometimes a rebuke or a caution, like the one Paul gave in the synagogue, can seem judgmental
  - Here we can see that Paul's heart was to reach his people

**ACTS 13:45**, "But when the Jewish leaders saw the crowds, they were jealous, and cursed and argued against whatever Paul said." (TLB)

- Once again, the leaders are not pleased with Paul
- Likely, there were multiple reasons for the Jewish leaders to feel jealous of Paul. Not only was his message something they were not willing to accept, but their congregants were flocking toward Paul.
- Paul and Barnabas do not back down

**ACTS 13:46**, "And Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly, saying, "It was necessary that the word of God be spoken first to you." (ESV)



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ACTS 13:46, "And Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly, saying, "It was necessary that the word of God be spoken first to you." (ESV)

- Their first assignment was to the Jews
- Once again, Paul and Barnabas make use of Jewish history and prophecy
  - Acts 13:47 directly quotes the prophet Isaiah
  - Isaiah, 49:6, "He says, "You will do more than restore the people of Israel to me. I will make you a light to the Gentiles, and you will bring my salvation to the ends of the earth." (NLT)

### The Gentiles Rejoice

ACTS 13:46, "...Since you thrust it aside and judge yourselves unworthy of eternal life, behold, we are turning to the Gentiles." (ESV)

- Paul and Barnabas understand their responsibility
  - Many of their fellow Jews have believed, but they don't waste their breath with those whose hearts are hard—instead they turn their attention to the Gentiles



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**ACTS 13:48**, "And when the Gentiles heard this, they began rejoicing and glorifying the word of the Lord, and as many as were appointed to eternal life believed." (ESV)

- To be "grafted in" is intentional
- The Gentiles may never be the "chosen," but certainly have reason to rejoice

**ACTS 13:51**, "But they shook off the dust from their feet against them and went to Iconium."

- Matthew 10:14, "And if anyone will not receive you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet when you leave that house or town." (ESV)

**ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:** R. Kent Hughes, *Acts: The Church Afire*, John B. Miller, *Convinced That God Had Called Us*, C. Hemer, *The Book of Acts in the Setting of Hellenistic History*

