



MZBMP

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TITLE:

Life of Paul - Paul's First Missionary Journey (Part 2)

TEXT:

Acts 13:4-13

INTRODUCTION

- The duration of the first missionary journey is approximately two years.
- The mission team is composed of Paul, Barnabas, and John Mark.
- They were sent by the church at Antioch.

IN SELEUCIA IN SYRIA

- They departed unto Seleucia (Acts 13:4).
- Seleucia:
 - It was the seaport of Antioch.

IN SALAMIS IN CYPRUS

- They set sail from Antioch, through Seleucia to Cyprus (Acts 13:4-5).
- Salamis:
 - This was the chief commercial city of Cyprus.
 - Cyprus was Barnabas' hometown.
- When they arrived in Salamis, a city in Cyprus, they preached the word of God in the Jewish synagogues (Acts 13:5).
 - From the use of "synagogues" in the plural, it may be inferred that there were many Jews in the city.

IN PAPHOS IN CYPRUS

- From Salamis, they travel across the whole island until they reach Paphos, where they encounter a Jewish sorcerer and false prophet named Bar-jesus (also known as Elymas) (Acts 13:6).
- Paphos:
 - This was the administrative capital city of Cyprus.
 - There was a strong Roman garrison at Paphos.
 - It was famous for its worship of Venus (Aphrodite).
- Sergius Paulus the deputy or the proconsul, who, hearing of the arrival of Barnabas and Paul, sent for them, desiring to hear the word of God (Acts 13:7).
- Bar-jesus tries to turn him away from the faith, but Paul, filled with the Holy Ghost, rebukes Bar-jesus and declares against him God's sentence of temporary blindness (Acts 13:8-11).
- Then Sergius Paulus, when he saw what was done, believed, being astonished at the doctrine of the Lord (Acts 13:12).

IN PERGA IN PAMPHYLIA

- From Paphos, Paul and his companions set sail for Perga in Pamphylia, where John Mark leaves them and returns to Jerusalem.
- Possible reasons why John Mark left:
 - Hardness, Fear, or Homesickness?
- John Mark's actions were the cause of a future split between Barnabas and Paul (Acts 15:36-40).

APPLICATION:

- God opens doors (Acts 13:7) – Satan opposes (Acts 13:6, 8).
- Regrettably, there are many casualties in the work of the Lord.