

The scripture that I read a moment ago is a portion of a sermon that Paul preached to Antioch in Pisidia, a town, not to be confused with Antioch of Syria, but one that lay to the East of Ephesus. Paul and his companions had been sent out from Antioch in Syria to preach the Gospel on his first missionary journey. At first, Paul and his companions preached to the Jew that were in the synagogues, but later turned to the Gentiles. I do not want to go into all the historical details, but when they came to Antioch of Pisidia they met with great opposition from the Jews because of the great success that the word of God had there, for the whole town met together to hear the Gospel.

I thought it would be profitable to hear the summary of the Gospel that Paul preached, for there are some who think that Paul preached something different from that which Peter preached. Verses 32 to 41 refutes that notion. Let us look at this passage.

- I. The Promises to the Fathers: the glad tidings of the Gospel. 32-37
 - A. These promises were fulfilled in the resurrection of Jesus Christ.
 - B. They included the promise of the throne of David: Jesus would not see corruption, but would rise from the dead. He would not be corrupted by death.
 - C. Ps. 16:8-10 refers to Christ. These are the glad tidings.
- II. Forgiveness of Sins Preached through Jesus Christ. Vs. 38, 39.
 - A. Forgiveness of sins comes only through Jesus Christ: Acts 4:10ff
 - B. Justified from all things: Acts 13:39 See Romans 3:19-28
 - C. Justified is a legal term, it means to be found innocent.
 - D. He speaks of the blessedness: Romans 4:1-9 All of the blessings of justification and the gifts of God come from the Holy Spirit through Jesus Christ. Galatians 3:13-14 this includes faith and hope: all is through Jesus Christ.
 - E. These are the glad tidings: not that the Jews will not rule the world, but that Jesus reigns from heaven from the throne of David and there is justification from sins and all that go along with.
 - F. Paul emphasizes this in his rebuke to the Jews in Acts 13:46-47
- III. Solemn Warnings to the Despisers among the Jews. Acts 13:41 Habakkuk 1:5

For as rebellion against God is a detestable monster, so it is no marvel if of itself it beget monsters of punishments. –Calvin

 - A. The darkening of the mind as Elymas at Salamis at the beginning of the chapter.
 - B. The judgment upon the Jews by the Babylonians, by the Romans, their long exile from God shows the results of despising and scoffing at the Word of God.
 - C. Closing of the prophets: I Cor. 14:20-23. Madness instead of conviction. This is a quotation from Isaiah 28, and with this I will close.

Application:

1. God will fit the punishment to the offense.
2. God instructs the plowman; will He not perform His work with wisdom and knowledge.
3. He is wonderful in counsel; excellent in working. He knows what He is doing.
4. What will he do to this generation: I have no idea!! But it will be wise and excellent and no flesh will boast against Him.