

The Beginning of the Missionary Era (Acts 12:25-13:4) Part 1

Luke reached a decisive point in his narrative: first mission from Antioch

Barnabas and Paul: are the first missionaries sent out from the church

The momentous step is taken to take the Gospel “to the ends of the earth”

I. Barnabas & Paul: Missionaries to the Ends of the Earth (12:25-3:4)

A. A diverse church and a diverse leadership (13:1)

Antioch had in its membership five resident prophets and teachers

Barnabas, Simeon called Niger, Simone of Cyrene, Lucius of Cyrene,

Manaen, Saul, who came to be known as Paul

Worship at the Antioch church (13:2)

1. *Question 1:* To whom did the Holy Spirit reveal His will? ‘They’
2. *Question 2:* What was it that the Holy Spirit revealed to the church?
3. *Question 3:* How was God’s call disclosed?

Four simple observations from the text regarding fasting in the NT church

- 1) After Christ’s coming
- 2) By a group together
- 3) An occasion for the Spirit’s Special guidance
- 4) Changed the course of history

C. Revelation of the Holy Spirit’s commissioning Barnabas & Paul (13:3)

- 4 *Question 4:* Who then commissioned the missionaries?
- Vs 4. They went down to Seleucia & from there sailed to Cyprus