

# THE ACTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

## CHAPTER 13:13-41

Media Reference Number SMX 191

### TITLE:

## A CLEAR AND PRESENT GOSPEL

### THEME:

*Acts 1:8*

*"But you shall receive **power** when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and **"you shall be witnesses to Me"** in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."*

Today March 12, 1995 The International Day of Prayer  
The Crusade Mar. 14-18, 95  
San Juan Puerto Rico

### Time Magazine

Stated "Billy Graham's ministry is to climax with the **1995 crusade meeting that will span the entire globe simultaneously...** Making it the largest, most widespread broadcast of any kind in human history.

TIME - magazine, Nov. 15 1993

### The Bible Declares

**"There is an End coming to the World..."**

But not until this Gospel is Preached to all the world

### Matthew 24:35

**Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.**

**(This Week it will cover the earth - 2,000 years later)**

As the Ultimate Missions Ministry is about to get underway in  
San Juan Puerto Rico,

Our Text begins with the Very First Missionary outreach of the  
Church ~ 2,000 years ago

## In Acts Chapter 13

- The Chapter reveals *what* the Gospel is and *How* it was spread throughout the world.

~ If That weren't enough ~

- Chapter 13 is the Sole Chapter that alone records *how you* ultimately became a believer in Jesus Christ.

Note;

It is absolutely Miraculous that upon your lap this morning is a collection of books that span thousands of years historically... and eons of millenniums prophetically - - All without error or contradiction

The Apostle Peter said “Even greater than Hearing God's Voice

2 Peter 1:19

**We have a more sure word of prophecy;** whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:

Paul's Entire Message *is an argument to bring a person to a decision*

1.) Paul's Opportunity to Share

vv. 13-16

### The Reading of the Old Testament

- A Visiting Rabbi's invitation to speak In Synagogue many opinions are given about the scripture (Think Tank)
- Paul, a Well-known Jew whom they all could relate to, wealthy, intelligent, knowledgeable

Verses 16-41

Paul's Clear & Present Gospel

\* *Exhortation GRK 3874 paraklesis (par-ak'-lay-sis)*

comfort, encouragement, by entreating them

*When the opportunity was provided. I believe strongly in this, that God will prompt me to share when He desires me to share - I am confident in His prompting.*

A Very Loving & Passionate Presentation of the Gospel

• Standing, • Motioning, • Speaking

~~~~~ His Jewish Audience ~~~~~

The Sovereignty of God

**2.) How God Had Delivered vv. 17-19**

The Argument is *that He was for them, On their side !!!*

**God's Sovereignty Chose You  
You're Special to God**

|                        |                       |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>He Chose them</b>   | Out of the World      |
| <b>He Exalted Them</b> | Above the Nations     |
| <b>He Brought Them</b> | Keeping them a Nation |

A soft rebuke "**He put up with their ways**"

What about Us & Our Ways ?

The Sovereignty of God

**3.) How God Had Protected vv. 20-22**

The Argument Here *is that He wanted them to dwell in peace and safety with equality.*

**Verse 20**

**'After that'**... Meaning after the law had been given, The Judges were appointed

## The Sovereignty of God

### 4.) How God Had Promised

vv. 23-25

#### Matthew 16:13-15

When Jesus came into the region of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, saying, "Who do men say that I, the Son of Man, am?" :14 So they said, "Some say John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." :15 He said to them, "But who do **you** say that I am?"

## The Sovereignty of God

### 5.) How God Had Provided

vv. 26-41

Paul had to share because He knew something too wonderful, too glorious, too real, too forever that he could stand to let others not know of it... that's Christianity friend - it's worth it !

Men, Brethren, Children of Abraham, Whoever among you who fears God.....**To You !**  
(collectively)

## Embracing All

What is implied here is...

If you are a **religious man** or a **non-religious man**  
if you're a **Jew** or a **gentile.... If You At All Are Interested in Eternal Life**  
to you the word of this salvation comes...

It is an "Open House" type of Salvation  
Open to all who will come

The Gospel is All Inviting but very Exclusive  
reserved for those who will respond to His invitation

If you are a Jew or Gentile. a Hindu or a Muslim  
If you Confess your sins to God the Father  
and Then receive Jesus Christ as your Savior from those sins.

~~~~~ Religion Never Died for anyone ~~~~~

**Hinduism** - *didn't die & pay for your sin,*  
**Islam** - *didn't die & pay for your sin,*  
**Christianity** - *didn't die & pay for your sin,*

"This Salvation"

The **Life** of Jesus  
The **Death** of Jesus  
The **Resurrection** of Jesus

**"This Salvation".... is the Gospel !**

1 Corinthians 15:1-6

Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand, by which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you-- unless you believed in vain. For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures, :5 and that He was seen by Peter, then by the twelve. :6 After that He was seen by over five hundred brethren at once, of whom the greater part remain to the present,

We Have 'sworn' (*blood*) testimony of eyewitnesses

1 John 4:14

**And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent the Son as Savior of the world.**

He Always Brings it Home, *Personally*

there is alot of cry today about

# Freedom of Choice

So God gives you freedom to choose...  
and people get upset at Him

**People want freedom to choose  
but they do not responsibility for their choices**

"The Voices of the Prophets"

**Daniel 9:26**

"And after the sixty-two weeks (483 years from March 14, 445 BC.)  
Messiah shall be **karath (kaw-rath')** **cut off**, but not for Himself;

**Remember... This is An Exhortation!**

**Luke 19:41**

Now as He drew near, He saw the city of Jerusalem and wept over it, :42 saying, "If you had known, even you, **especially in this your day**, (the day - 173,880 days) the things that make for your peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes. :43 "For days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment around you, surround you and close you in on every side, :44 "and level you, and your children within you, to the ground; and they will not leave in you one stone upon another, **because you did not know the time of your visitation**. (episkope = Shepherd)"

**It Was Their Responsibility to Know !!!**

**Turn to Matthew 2:1-6**

Matthew 2:4

And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he inquired of them where the **Christ**, Messiah, Savior, was to be born.

**They (the chief priests and scribes) Knew the Answer  
to the Question !!!**

**Like the Eskimo hunting a wolf**

**The Taste Deceived Em**

sin blinds us to God's Word - can't understand it,  
seems weird foolish....

2 Corinthians 4:3-4

But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.

The Old testament had prophesied the entire affair...

There were over • **330 prophecies** fulfilled regarding Jesus' first coming to earth, born as a human baby.

Over • **30 prophecies** were fulfilled on the day He died.

How many have you fulfilled ?

~~Personal Opinion~~

By using the authority of Scripture.

*Your personal opinion does not change the truth of God... while you think you're criticizing and critiquing and being a judge of the Bible.... it sits silent, waiting, because time is on its side*

There were many eyewitnesses *living at the time Paul made this statement -*  
"Go Ask Them Yourselves!"

for these things were not done in a corner.

"If I were to see him, I'd believe too"

But What about us ? ~ Who can we ask ?

The Power of Our Testimonies

~~~~~ Ask Me ~~~~~

**I'm not the same person - I've been converted !!!**

**My Life Personally** *A bad temper, a fear of failing, and of being rejected. I stuttered so bad there times when I would go days without saying a word.*

My temper is gone, I can't fail, and I've been accepted by God

Who else is there?

And He healed so that I might speak for Him

**Isaiah 32:4**

**The mind of the fearful will know and understand,  
and the stammering tongue will be fluent and clear.**

He had been convinced that Jesus was who He said He was - are convinced today, do you know Him today?

The **Forgiveness** of Sins [-]  
&  
**Justification** from all things [+]

\* **Justification**      *GRK 1344 dikaioo (dik-ah-yo'-o)*  
*to render just and innocent:*

\* **Forgiveness**      *GRK859 aphasis (af'-es-is)*  
*to be freed, to be pardoned, liberated*

The Gospel Must be given *in Such a Way That Everyone who hears it is brought to the place of having to decide*

**Stop Beatin Around the Bush**

John 3:17-19

For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.  
:18 Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God's one and only Son. :19 This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but men loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil.

This Means We've got "Something to say"  
The world needs to hear...

Learn from Paul... Use the Bible, The Sword

You don't defend a sword like you don't defend a lion

When Was the Last time you appreciated  
the fire sprinklers overhead ?

Not Until There's a Fire !!!

If you haven't yet turned from your own way to His way

Then you're live is like wearing a gasoline soaked shirt,  
the law (10) is the match - **But Jesus is the fire Insurance**

## Smoking or Non-Smoking

'I came for the Sick not the healthy'

'I came for the Lost'

Galatians 6:7

Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. :8 For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life.

How I'm I sowing to the flesh ?

### **Galatians 5:19-21**

Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, :20 idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions :21 and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

Jesus Provided a way out of these things

Jesus Provided a way out of these things

Jesus Provided a way out of these things

Jesus Provided a way out of these things

Jesus Provided a way out of these things

That Israel began with God but they didn't end with God

**What Does Paul's Message mean to the church today?**

That the declaration of the gospel is the most noble, most meaningful & most effective message (The Only Thing) that can "Liberate Man"

Romans 2:4

Or do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and long-suffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance?