

ACTS: A Mixed Response

Acts 13:44-52

The Establishment's Response (v. 44-47)

- On the next Sabbath, people from all over the city came to the synagogue to hear Paul & Barnabus proclaim the Gospel
- The Jewish leadership's response was jealousy
 - They had never seen such a response from the city
 - So, they try to argue against Paul & Barnabus
- Paul & Barnabus answer with boldness
 - Those Jews who refuse to believe were given opportunity
 - Thus, they had rejected Jesus, the source of eternal life
 - Now, eternal life is offered to the Gentiles
- This was the mission that God had given Paul & Barnabus
 - He quotes Isaiah 49:6 as proof
 - In fact, this is the mission of the whole Church: To call everyone to repentance and faith in Jesus

The Gentiles' Response (v. 48-49)

- The Gentiles are elated that God included them in His plan
 - And many believed
 - And the Gospel spread like wildfire

Responses Intensify (v. 50-52)

- The Jewish leadership's jealousy grows
 - They rile up those in position of power to persecute Paul & Barnabus
- Paul & Barnabus follow Jesus' teaching about those who reject the Gospel (Matt. 10:14)
 - A sign of dissociation with punishment that awaits those who reject the Lord
- Meanwhile, the Church grows in joy and is filled with the Holy Spirit

So What?

- How do we respond to the Gospel?
- Are we faithfully proclaiming the Gospel and letting God deal with those who reject Him?

Meditation Verse: Acts 13:47