



Power From on High

Series: Power From On High.

Title: Paul's First Sermon

Lesson: 70

Text: Acts 13:13-23

Date: April 7, 2024

_____ of God's Word

A failure to preaching God's Word is tragic

Hosea 4:6 My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge, I also will reject you from being My priest. ...

Three reasons why preaching is disappearing:

1. Pastors have lost their belief in the authority of Scripture.
2. Pastors see attendees as consumers and not as those who have been blood-bought by the Lord Jesus Christ
3. Pastors have become marketers and visionaries rather than theologians.

The NT repeatedly stresses the importance of preaching.

2 Timothy 4:2 preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction.

1 Timothy 5:17 The elders who rule well are to be considered worthy of double honor, especially those who work hard at preaching and teaching.

Outline for Acts 13:16-41

1. Survey of Israel's history - 13-23
2. Testimony of Jesus as Messiah - 24-37
3. Invitation to accept Jesus - 38-39
4. Warning of judgment - 40-41

Acts 13:13–23 Now Paul and his companions put out to sea from Paphos and came to Perga in Pamphylia; but John left them and returned to Jerusalem. 14 But going on from Perga, they arrived at Pisidian Antioch, and on the Sabbath day they went into the synagogue and sat down. 15 After the reading of the Law and the Prophets the synagogue officials sent to them, saying, “Brethren, if you have any word of exhortation for the people, say it.” 16 Paul stood up, and motioning with his hand said, “Men of Israel, and you who fear God, listen: 17 “The God of this people Israel chose our fathers and made the people great during their stay in the land of Egypt, and with an uplifted arm He led them out from it. 18 “For a period of about forty years He put up with them in the wilderness. 19 “When He had destroyed seven nations in the land of Canaan, He distributed their land as an inheritance—all of which took about four hundred and fifty years. 20 “After these things He gave them judges until Samuel the prophet.

21 “Then they asked for a king, and God gave them Saul the son of Kish, a man of the tribe of Benjamin, for forty years. 22 “After He had removed him, He raised up David to be their king, concerning whom He also testified and said, ‘I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after My heart, who will do all My will.’ 23 “From the descendants of this man, according to promise, God has brought to Israel a Savior, Jesus,

Acts 13:13 Now Paul and his companions put out to sea from Paphos and came to Perga in Pamphylia; but John left them and returned to Jerusalem.

Two changes occurred.

1. Paul has taken the prominent role.
2. John (John Mark) left to return home to Jerusalem.

Acts 15:38 But Paul kept insisting that they should not take him along who had **deserted** them in Pamphylia and had not gone with them to the work.

14 But going on from Perga, they arrived at Pisidian Antioch, and on the Sabbath day they went into the synagogue and sat down.

“went into the synagogue”

15 After the reading of the Law and the Prophets the synagogue officials sent to them, saying, “Brethren, if you have any word of exhortation for the people, say it.”

The typical pattern of worship services in synagogues - had 4 parts

1. They recited the Shema (Deut 6:4-9)
2. Prayers were offered
3. They would read a portion of Scripture from the Law then from the prophets.
4. There would be Instruction from a competent visiting guest

1 Peter 3:15 but sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence;

16 Paul stood up, and motioning with his hand said, “Men of Israel, and you who fear God, listen:

Two audiences

“Men of Israel” “who fear God”

“listen”

17 “The God of this people Israel chose our fathers and made the people great during their stay in the land of Egypt, and with an uplifted arm He led them out from it.

“chose”

Moses (Exo. 3:4-10; Psa. 106:23),
Aaron (1 Sam. 12:6; Psa. 105:26);

JUDGES: **Gideon** (Jud. 6:11-15), **Samson** (Jud. 13:3-5),
Barak (Jud. 4:6-9), **Samuel** (1 Sam. 3:4ff);

KINGS: **Saul** (1 Sam. 9:16; 10:24), **David** (1 Sam.
16:1, 12), **Solomon** (2 Chr. 28:5, 6), **Jeroboam** (1 Kgs.
11:29ff);

PROPHETS: **Amos** (Amos 7:15), **Hosea** (Hos. 1:2),
Jeremiah (Jer. 1:410);

NATIONAL LEADERS: **Pharaoh** (Exo. 9:16), **Cyrus** (Isa.
45:1), **Nebuchadnezzar** (Jer. 26:6ff), **Zerubbabel** (Hag.
2:23).

APOSTLES: Acts 1:24; Acts 6:5; Acts 13:17; Acts
15:7; Acts 15:22; Acts 15:2

JESUS the Messiah: (Isa. 28:16; 42:1, 6;
49:1, 5, 6)

Israel as a nation was elected

Deuteronomy 7:6 "For you are a holy people to the Lord your God; the Lord your God has ***chosen*** you to be a people for His own possession out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth.

"made" them great

"led" them out of Egypt

“uplifted arm” - which speaks of His omnipotence

18 “For a period of about forty years He put up with them in the wilderness.

Deuteronomy 1:31 and in the wilderness where you saw how the Lord your God carried you, just as a man carries his son, in all the way which you have walked until you came to this place.’

19 “When He had destroyed seven nations in the land of Canaan, He distributed their land as an inheritance—all of which took about four hundred and fifty years.

“destroyed” their enemies

“distributed” their land inheritance

The Palestinian Covenant

Paul gave the length of time - 450 years

- (1) Israel’s 400 years in Egypt
- (2) Israel's 40 years of wilderness wandering
- (3) 10 years to conquer and settle the Promised Land

20 “After these things, He gave them judges until Samuel the prophet.

Judges 21:25 In those days there was no king in Israel; everyone did what was right in his own eyes.

21 **“Then** they asked for a king, and **God** gave them Saul the son of Kish, a man of the tribe of Benjamin, for forty years.

22 “After He had removed him, He raised up David to be their king, concerning whom He also testified and said, ‘I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after My heart, who will do all My will.’

Daniel 2:21 “It is He who changes the times and the epochs; He removes kings and establishes kings; ☩☩☩

“raised up” [egeiromai]

- Raised up David onto the scene of history.
- In verses 30, 37 Jesus is raised from the dead.

23 “From the descendants of this man, according to promise, God has brought to Israel a Savior, Jesus,

The Davidic Covenant

2 Samuel 7:16 “Your house and your kingdom shall endure before Me forever; your throne shall be established forever.” ’ ’ ”

Jeremiah 23:5 “Behold, the days are coming,” declares the Lord, “When I will raise up for David a righteous Branch; And He will reign as king and act wisely And do justice and righteousness in the land.

Implications

1. Spirit empowered preaching will exalt the glory of God by drawing attention to God's _____.
2. All of human history unfolds for one single purpose, to exalt _____.

Discussion guide

1. What are the three reasons biblical preaching has disappeared and why are they so important? Can you think of any other reasons? What does 2 Timothy 4:2 mean?
2. Reread 1 Peter 3:15 and share what that looks like today?
3. Reread verses 13-23 and mark every time God is mentioned and the verb that follows. In what ways is God sovereign?
4. What was the most important takeaway from today's sermon and why?



ANSWERS: Preaching, supremacy, Jesus Christ