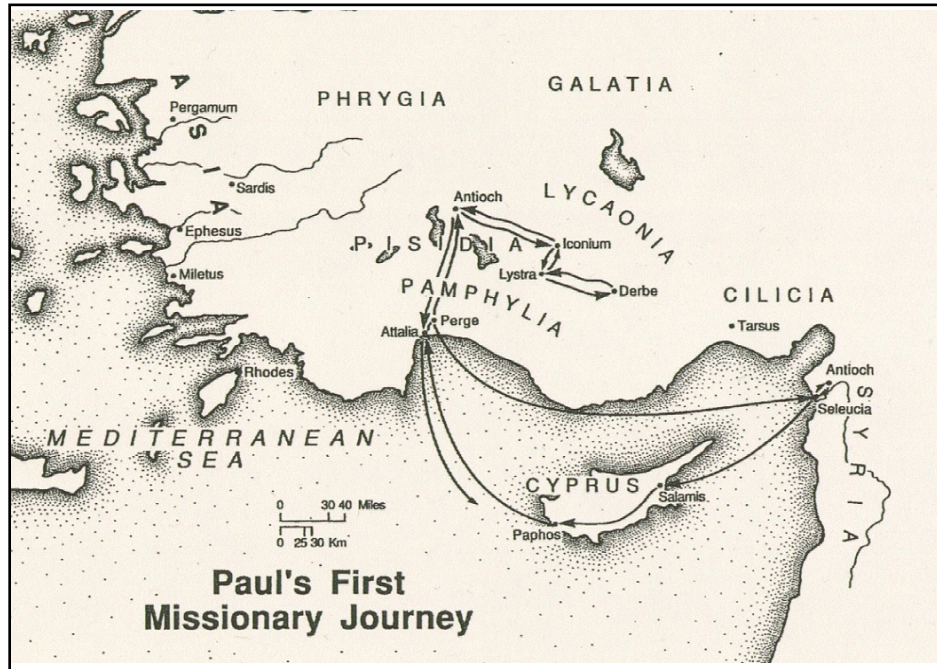


# New Testament Overview – J. Carl Laney

## PAUL'S FIRST MISSIONARY JOURNEY

Acts 13-14

(April 48 - September 49)



Departure from Antioch Acts 13:1-3

April 48

Ministry on Cyprus 13:4-12

April-June 48

Through Pamphylia 13:13

July 1-15, 48

Ministry in Pisidian Antioch 13:14-52

July 16-Sept 15, 48

Ministry in Iconium 14:1-7

October 48-February 49

Ministry in Lystra & Derbe 14:8-21

March-June 15, 49

Return visit to churches 14:22-23

June 16-August 49

Ministry in Perge 14:24-25

August 49

Return to Antioch of Syria 14:26-28

September 49

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## THE COMMISSION OF PAUL AND BARNABAS 13:1-3

### Characteristics of the Church

- Teaching
- Serving
- Fasting
- Praying
- Fellowshipping

### Appointment by the Holy Spirit 1-2

### Dedication by the Church 3

“laying on hands” = a ritual of identification

## MINISTRY ON CYPRUS 13:4-12

### At Salamis 4-5

### In Paphos 6-12

#### Confrontation with Elymas 6-11

#### Invitation to the proconsul 6-7

Proconsuls were chosen by the Senate (or by lot) to rule Senatorial provinces for one year.

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Opposition by the magician 8

Authentication by Paul 9-11

Conversion of the proconsul 12

MINISTRY IN ASIA MINOR 13:13-14:28

Ministry in Pisidian Antioch 13:13-52

They apparently came to shore at Perga, which was 12 miles inland, but had access to the sea through a river channel.

Return of John Mark 13

Arrival at Antioch 14a

Antioch was an important commercial and religious center. It was the worship center of the god “Men,” the supreme Anatolian god (also called Dionysius).

The city was actually located in Phrygia, but historically was associated with Pisidia.

Preaching in Antioch 14b-41 This is Paul’s longest recorded sermon.

The coming of the Messiah 17-25

The gospel of salvation 26-31

The support of Scripture 31-39

Psalm 2:7

Isaiah 55:3

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Psalm 16:10

The application 38-41

“Everyone who believes is “justified.”

Verse 39 contains the seed thought of what is most characteristic of Paul’s preaching.

Response to the ministry 42-52

Ministry at Iconium 14:1-7

Forced to flee, Paul and Barnabas traveled 80 miles SE to Iconium (modern Konya).

Response to the gospel 1-2

Ministry despite opposition 3-4

Flight to Lystra 5-7

Ministry at Lystra 14:8-20

Lystra and Derbe were cities of Lycaonia in the Roman province of Galatia. Lystra had once been a military outpost of Rome, but the city had declined in population and importance.

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Healing of the lame man 8-10

Case of mistaken identity 11-13

Barnabas = Zeus, chief of the Greek gods

Paul = Hermes, patron of the orators.

Proclamation of the gospel 14-18

Stoning of Paul 19-20

Ministry at Derbe 14:21

Derbe, located 70 miles SE of Lystra, has only recently been identified and we know very little about the place.

Return to Antioch 14:22-28

Follow-up in Galatia 22-23

Ministry at Perga 24-25

Voyage to Antioch 26

Report to the church 27-28

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Three important things happened after Paul returned to Antioch:

First, Peter came to Antioch and Paul rebuked him (Gal. 2:11-16).

Second, Paul learned of the Judaizers and wrote Galatians (Gal. 2:16).

Third, Paul traveled to Jerusalem to participate in the council (Acts 15).

Questions for class discussion

1. What can we learn about missions and missionary strategy from Paul's first missionary journey?
2. What can we learn about missions from the example of the church at Antioch (13:1-4, 14:26-28).
3. What was Paul's relationship with the "sending church," the church at Antioch (13:1-4, 14:26-28).
4. How important was Paul's missionary "furlough"? What did Paul do during the period between his first and second journeys (14:27-28)?

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## THE JERUSALEM COUNCIL Acts 15

The Jerusalem Council met in the fall of A.D. 49 to decide whether or not Gentiles could be accepted into the church without becoming Jews first. The question was not how but who can be saved.

### I. The Problem of the Judaizers 15:1-5

A. Debate over circumcision 1-2

B. Delegation to Jerusalem 3-4

C. The issue: 5 Can Gentiles be saved as Gentiles? Or must they become Jews first?

### II. The Discussion of the Council 15:6-21

A. Peter 6-11 *Jews are saved by grace through faith. Doesn't that apply to Gentiles?*

B. Paul & Barnabas 12 *Remember what God is doing among the Gentiles.*

C. James 13-21 *What God is doing today is in keeping with his plans for the future.*

James quotes Amos 9:11-12

The Davidic Dynasty ("tabernacle of David") will be restored.

Israel will enjoy world-wide dominion.

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Gentile nations will call upon God's name.

What is the point? What God is doing today in blessing the Gentiles is in harmony with His program for the future.

James suggests minimal restrictions. Why were these necessary?

Abstain from . . .

1. Meats offered to idols 1 Cor. 8:7-13, 10:7-28

2. *Porneia* 1 Cor. 5:1

3. Things strangled Lev. 17:10,14, 19:26

4. Blood Lev. 17:10,14

What is the Old Testament background for these restrictions?

### III. The Decision of the Council 15:22-35

A. The Letter of Clarification 15:22-29

B. The Letter Delivered to Antioch 15:30-31

C. The Ministry of the Messengers 15:32-33



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- D. The Ministry of Paul and Barnabas 15:35
- E. Lessons from the Jerusalem Council
  - 1. What can we learn from the steps taken by the church at Antioch?
  - 2. What can we learn about church polity, practice and decision making?