****

 ***“Passion for the Mission!”***

 **ACTS Chapter 13**

***> (v1-5) Let’s have Passion for the Ministry!***

**- *Ministered to the Lord-* Christians serving Christ, by prayer, discipleship. (Worship, Word, Prayer, Communion, Witness, Giving - Acts 2:41-47.)**

***- The call of Saul-* The Lord spoke to Saul when he was struck to the ground on the road to Damascus, Acts 26:15-18 - *So I said, 'Who are You, Lord?' And He said, 'I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But rise and stand on your feet; for I have appeared to you for this purpose, to make you a minister and a witness both of the things which you have seen and of the things which I will yet reveal to you. I will deliver you from the Jewish people, as well as from the Gentiles, to whom I now send you, to open their eyes, in order to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who are sanctified by faith in Me.'***

**- *Five Keys to Church Ministry & Missionary Outreach:***

***(1) We minister to the Lord.***

***(2) We fast to the Lord.***

***(3) We listen to the Spirit.***

***(4) We pray.***

***(5) We act in unity (laying on of hands).***

***> (v6-13) Let’s have Passion for the Mission!***

**- A sincere seeker of the Word of God – Sergius - *“Born a wonder”-* This Sergius Paulus may have been the same man as L. Sergius Paulus, a Roman official in charge of the Tiber during the reign of the emperor Claudius (ruled A.D. 41 AD - 54 AD).**

**- Bar-Jesus - *“Son of Jesus” -* Three strikes you’re out!**

**Strike 1 - Sorcerer - Deuteronomy 18:9-14 - *"When you come into the land which the LORD your God is giving you, you shall not learn to follow the abominations of those nations. There shall not be found among you anyone who makes his son or his daughter pass through the fire, or one who practices witchcraft, or a soothsayer, or one who interprets omens, or a sorcerer, or one who conjures spells, or a medium, or a spiritist, or one who calls up the dead. For all who do these things are an abomination to the LORD, and because of these abominations the LORD your God drives them out from before you. You shall be blameless before the LORD your God. For these nations which you will dispossess listened to soothsayers and diviners; but as for you, the LORD your God has not appointed such for you.***

**Strike 2 - A false prophet - Matt 24:23-25- *"Then if anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the Christ!' or 'There!' do not believe it. For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect. See, I have told you beforehand.***

**Strike 3 - Son of the Devil - his work- Turn people away from the faith, full of deceit & fraud; enemy of righteousness (integrity, virtue, purity of life, rightness, correctness of thinking feeling, & acting); perverts the straight ways of the Lord.**

***> (v14-52) Let’s have Passion for the Message!***

# - The theme of Paul’s message - From “The Passion for the Christ” to “The Presence of the Resurrection!”

**(v23) Raised up for Israel a Savior (Gk.- *soter-* savior, deliverer, preserver).**

**(v30) Raised Him from the dead.**

**(v33) Raised up Jesus.**

**(v34) Raised Him from the dead.**

**(v37) He whom God raised up.**

**(v38-39) The Purpose of Paul’s message is *“forgiveness of sins;”***

**- Romans 3:23 - *For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.***

**- Romans 6:23 - *For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.***

**- and *“justification by faith” - Justification* is the act of God whereby He declares the believing sinner righteous in Jesus Christ. (Romans 5:1*- therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ;* also, Galatians 3:19-25 - the Law vs. Christ.)**

**(v51) Have you been shaking the *“dust off your feet”* - The Bible says that *our feet are to be shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace* (Eph. 6:15), but if people will not receive the message, Jesus said in Luke 9:5- *Whosoever will not receive you, when you go out of that city, shake off the very dust from your feet for a testimony against them.***

**(v52) Follow this example and you will “Be filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.” Jesus said in John 16:33- *These things I have spoken unto you, that in me you might have peace. In the world you shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.***

**Conclusion: Hey Christians let’s minister to the Lord! Go for God in missions, deliver a message of glad tidings, the resurrection of Jesus Christ, the forgiveness of sins, & justification by faith! JOY! JOY! & MORE JOY!**