

ACTS

*THE GOSPEL
ON THE MOVE*

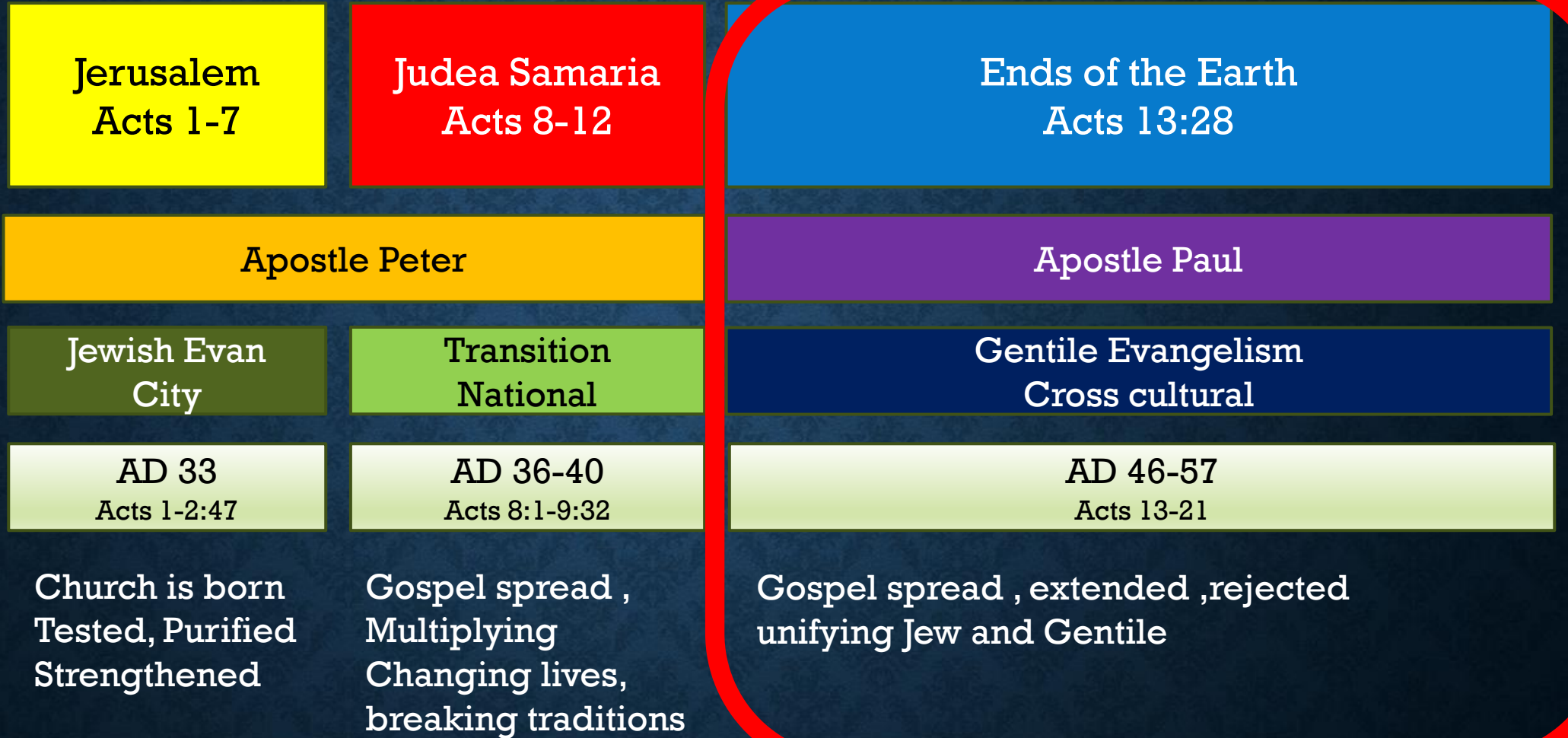


STUDY 11

THE START OF WORLD MISSIONS

ACTS 12-13

ACTS



Acts 1:8 (ESV) But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”



RECOGNITION OF GOSPEL TO THE GENTILES

Acts 11:17-18 (ESV) If then God gave the same gift to them as he gave to us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could stand in God's way?" 18 When they heard these things they fell silent. And they glorified God, saying, "Then to the Gentiles also God has granted repentance that leads to life."

ANTIOCH CHURCH

The start of world wide missions

JEWISH EVANGELISM

Acts 11:19 Now those who were scattered because of the persecution that arose over Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia and Cyprus and Antioch, speaking the word to no one except Jews.

Usual modus operandi-bible believing Jews or Samaritans



BEGINNING OF INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS

Acts 11:20 But there were some of them, men of Cyprus and Cyrene, who on coming to Antioch spoke to the Hellenists also, preaching the Lord Jesus.
21 And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number who believed turned to the Lord

Greek speaking Jews or Greeks ?



ANTIOCH THE BEAUTIFUL

An aerial, 3D-rendered view of the ancient city of Antioch. The city is densely packed with buildings, mostly with red-tiled roofs, and is enclosed by a high stone wall with crenellations. A wide river flows through the city, with several bridges crossing it. In the foreground, there is a large, circular stadium with a tiered seating area. The surrounding landscape is lush with green fields and trees. The overall scene is a detailed reconstruction of the city's layout and architecture.

Jews
Greeks
Romans
Persia,
India
China



BEGINNING OF INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS

Acts 11:22 The report of this came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch.

Why did they send Barnabas?

HOW DID BARNABAS DO IT?

Acts 11:23 When he came and saw the grace of God, he was glad, and he exhorted them all to remain faithful to the Lord with steadfast purpose, 24 for he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a great many people were added to the Lord

An icon of Saint Barnabas, a man with a halo, wearing a red and gold robe. The background is gold with faint text.

converts'
changed lives
and new
international
community

Faith that extends
beyond ethnicity

Discipleship

Spirituality-
character and
faith

BARNABAS

- Barnabas –Son of Comfort
- Exhorted or encouraged...Parakaleo

Para – to come alongside to
be sympathetic or to be
near you

Gentle word

English word encouragement ---to soft

Kaleo- To Call
or point people
towards a goal

Forceful word

English word exhort----too hard

Mixture of truth and love

VERY FEW PEOPLE HAVE BOTH

Totally
truthful but
not patient
will give
judgment



Totally
sympathetic but
tend to ignore
truth

CULTURAL DIFFERENCES



Culture based on family
Self esteem from duty and if you
don't comply they shame you
Forceful ..duty, honor
Unforgiving



Self esteem from desire
We want love we don't
want truth

Acts 11:25-

Saul, 26 and

to Antioch. For

and taught

disciples were

Acts 9:29-30 (ESV) And he spoke and disputed against the Hellenists. But they were seeking to kill him. 30 And when the brothers learned this, they brought him down to Caesarea and sent him off to Tarsus

7-8 years ago

for

him

church

the

Faith that extends beyond ethnicity

Accountability

Brave courage

- Multi-generational and extremely talented
- Cosmopolitan education
- Breadth of experience
- Calling to Gentiles

Ch:

ORGANIZED SOCIAL ACTION-DISASTER RELIEF

Acts 11:27-30 (ESV) Now in these days prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch. 28 And one of them named Agabus stood up and foretold by the Spirit that there would be a great famine over all the world (this took place in the days of Claudius). 29 So the disciples determined, every one according to his ability, to send relief to the brothers living in Judea. 30 And they did so, sending it to the elders by the hand of Barnabas and Saul.

GOSPEL = WORD + DEED

- Acts 2 No at single person in need
- Acts 6 Care of Widows
- Acts 12: International famine relief

EMBODIED MISSIONS

Evangelism

Social Action

Inseparable

Ministering to the whole person

Titus 2:11-14 (ESV) For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, 12 training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, 13 waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, 14 who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own **possession who are zealous for good works.**

A promotional graphic for the Star Wars movie 'The Empire Strikes Back'. The background is a dark blue space scene with several TIE fighters flying in formation. In the center, the helmeted head of Darth Vader is visible, and to the right, the face of Yoda is partially shown. The text is centered and reads: 'ACTS' in large white letters, 'Acts 12-13' below it, 'The Empire Strikes Back' in a smaller font, 'STAR WARS' in a stylized font with horizontal lines, 'THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK' in the largest font, and 'EPISODE V' at the bottom with horizontal lines.

ACTS

Acts 12-13

The Empire Strikes Back

STAR WARS

THE EMPIRE
STRIKES BACK

EPISODE V

PERSECUTION

James brother of
John martyred
Acts 12:1-2

Peter Jailed by
Herod
Acts 12:3-4

PRAYER AS CENTRAL FEATURE OF EARLY CHURCH

Acts 12:5 (ESV) So Peter was kept in prison,
but earnest prayer for him was made to
God by the church.



Vv 6-19



THE KINGDOM STRIKES BACK

Acts 12:22-23 (ESV) And the people were shouting, “The voice of a god, and not of a man!” 23 Immediately an angel of the Lord struck him down, because he did not give God the glory, and he was eaten by worms and breathed his last.

THE PROVINCES OF ASIA MINOR 1ST CENTURY A.D.

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Acts 12:24 (ESV) But the word of God increased and multiplied.

MULTICULTUALITY OF ANTIOCH CHURCH

Acts 13:1-3 Now there were in the church at Antioch prophets and teachers, Barnabas, **Cypriot..Jew**

Simeon who was called Niger, **Niger =means Black**

Lucius of Cyrene, **White North African**

Manaen a lifelong friend of Herod the tetrarch, **Nobleman**

and Saul. **Pharisee and Jew from Tarsus**

PRAYER AS CENTRAL FEATURE OF EARLY CHURCH FRUIT OF PRAYER -MISSIONARIES

Acts 13:2 While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, “Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.” 3 Then after fasting and praying they laid their hands on them and sent them off

First Missionary Journey



Salamis, preached to Jews in synagogues (Acts 13:4-5 ESV)

First Missionary Journey



Elymas --magician, a Jewish false prophet named Bar- Jesus. ---
Proconsul, Sergius Paulus, a man of intelligence (Acts 13:5-7)

False Jewish prophet

Bar Jesus –Son of Salvation

Son of the Devil

ELYMAS *The* SORCERER

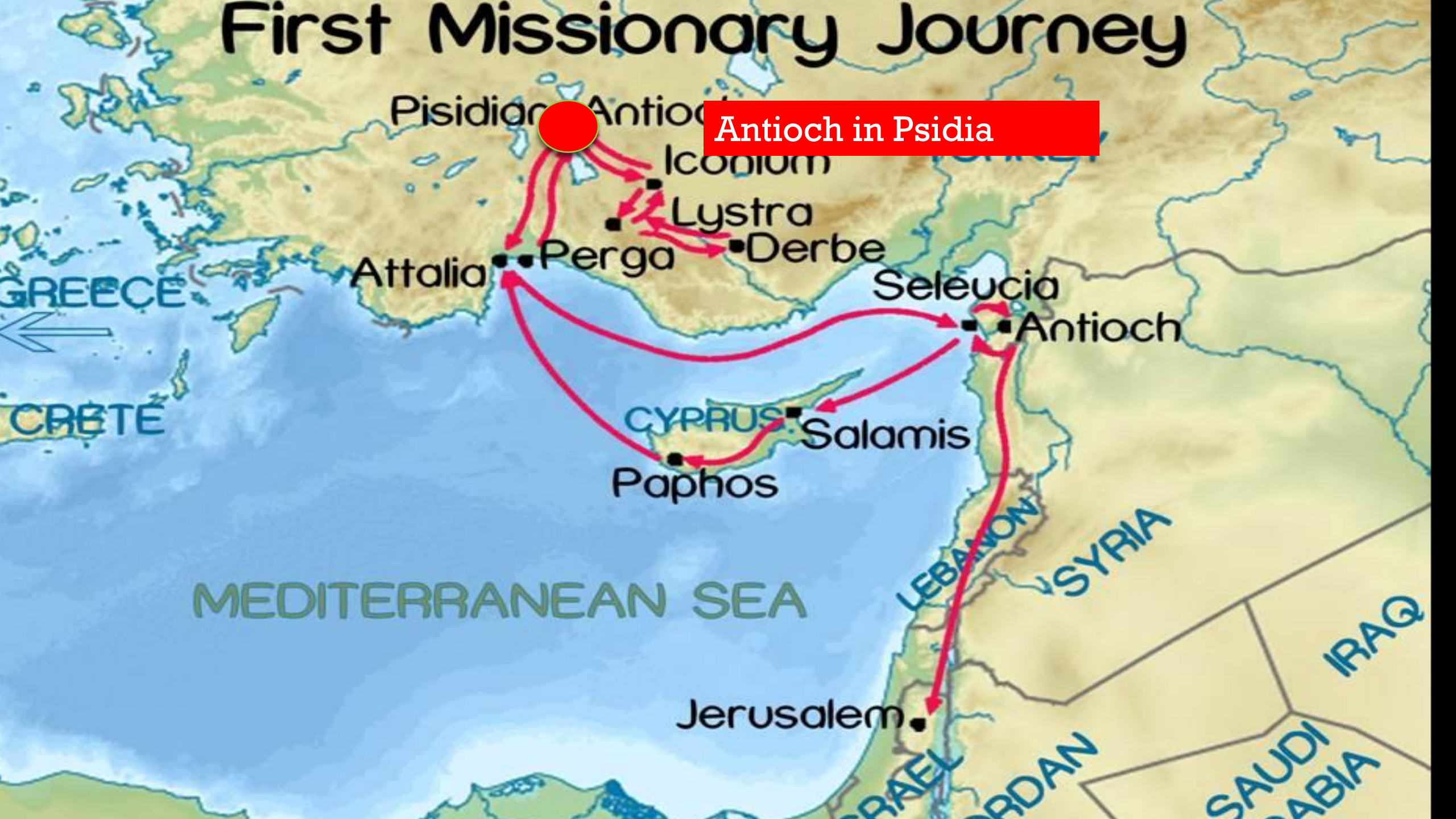
ACTS 13

Acts 13:10-11 (ESV) and said, “You son of the devil, you enemy of all righteousness, full of all deceit and villainy, will you not stop making crooked the straight paths of the Lord? 11 And now, behold, the hand of the Lord is upon you, and you will be blind and unable to see the sun for a time.”

THE WORD

Acts 13:12 (ESV) Then the proconsul believed,
when he saw what had occurred, for he was
astonished at the teaching of the Lord.

First Missionary Journey



Antioch in Psidia

Pisidian Antioch

Iconium

Lystra

Derbe

Attalia

Perga

Seleucia

Antioch

CYPRUS

Salamis

Paphos

MEDITERRANEAN SEA

Jerusalem

LEBANON

SYRIA

ISRAEL

JORDAN

IRAQ

SAUDI ARABIA

GREECE

CRETE



Acts 13 –Jews and Gentile god fearers

Acts 14 –Uneducated Pagans (Gentile)

Acts 17 –Intellect pagans Philosophers

GOSPEL PRESENTATION TO JEWS

Gospel Witness

God chose Israel ..saved them from Egypt
Gave Caanan a promised land 450yr
Gave kings, David ..prophesied ultimate Saviour from the line of David..jesus

Gospel Events

John prophesied of the coming of this messiah.. The authorities did not recognize him despite Scripture killed an innocent man
God raised him . As prophesied Ps 2, Ps 16.Paul and apostles witnesses

Gospel Promises

through this man forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you

Gospel Conditions

and by him everyone who believes is freed from everything from which you could not be freed by the law of Moses.

RESURRECTION

Fact

But God raised him from the dead, 31 and for many days he appeared to those who had come up with him from Galilee to Jerusalem, who are now his witnesses to the people
(Acts 13:30-31 ESV)

Fulfilment

And we bring you the good news that what God promised to the fathers, 33 this he has fulfilled to us their children by raising Jesus
(Acts 13:32-33 ESV)

CULTURAL CONTEXT

SADDUCEES DID NOT BELIEVE RESURRECTION



THE CHRISTIAN FAITH..AN INCONVENIENT TRUTH

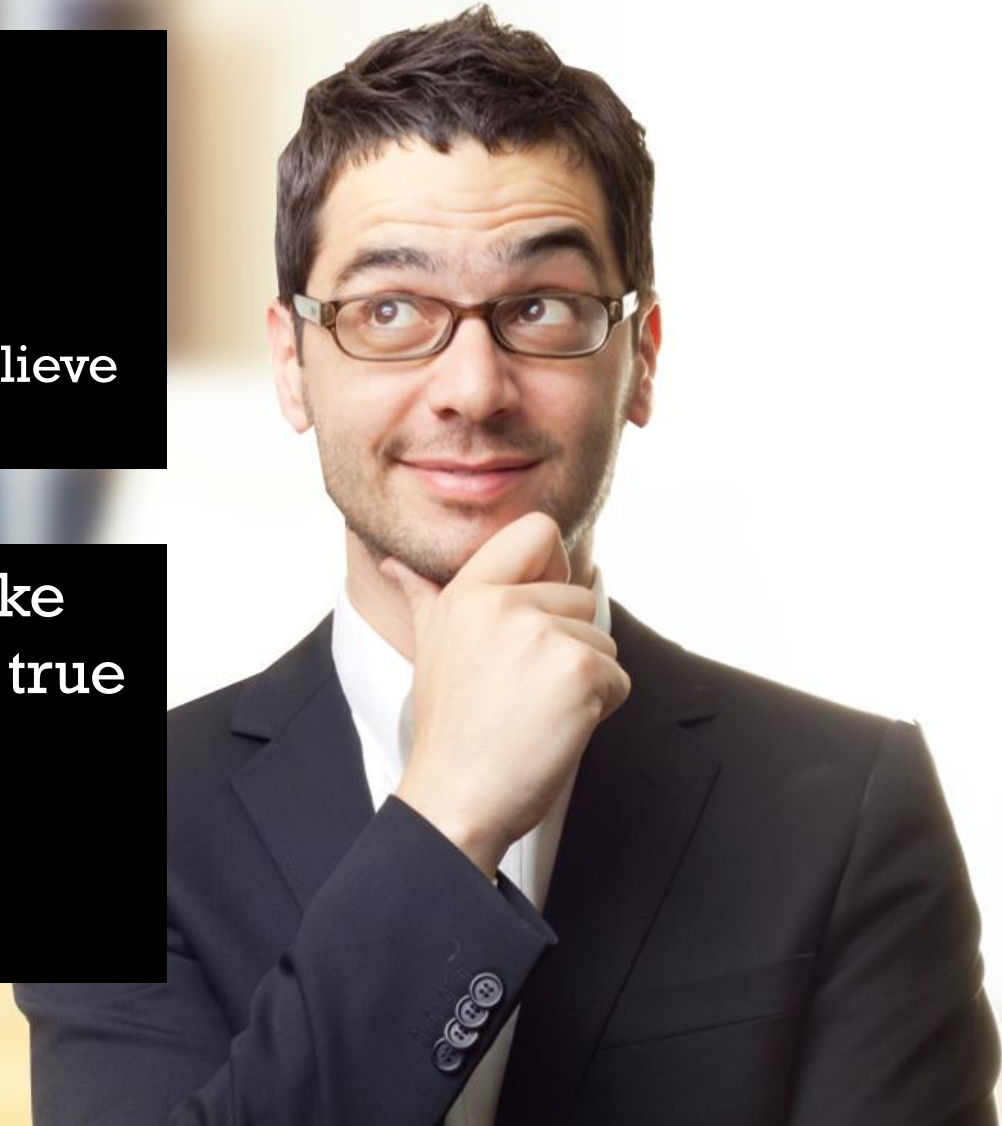
Does it appeal to you

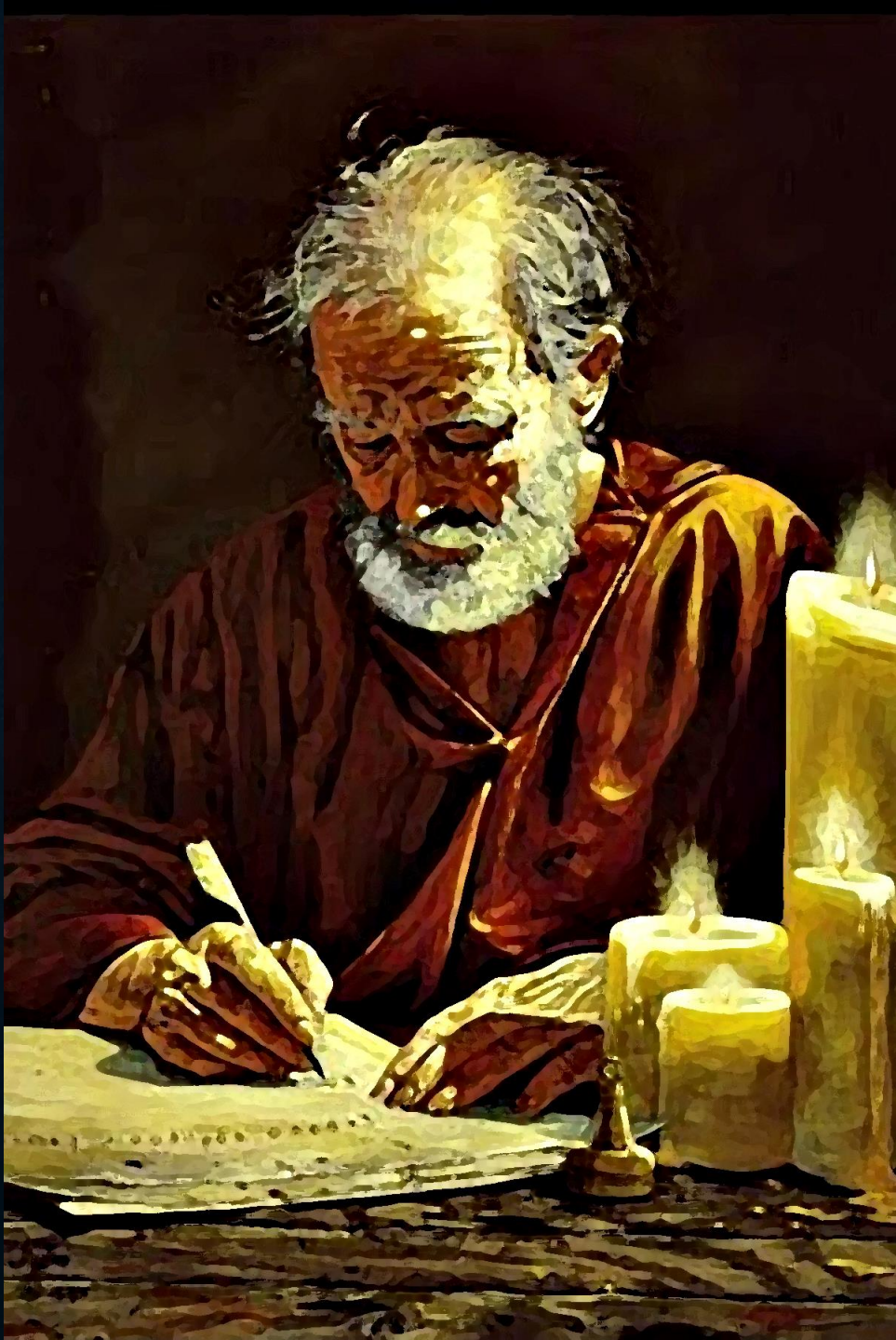
No , Why not

I don't like this part of the
Bible...That's why I don't believe

So because you don't like
something it cannot be true
then?

Resurrection negated?





- Hated Christianity
- But Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest 2 and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any belonging to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem
- (Acts 9:1-2 ESV)

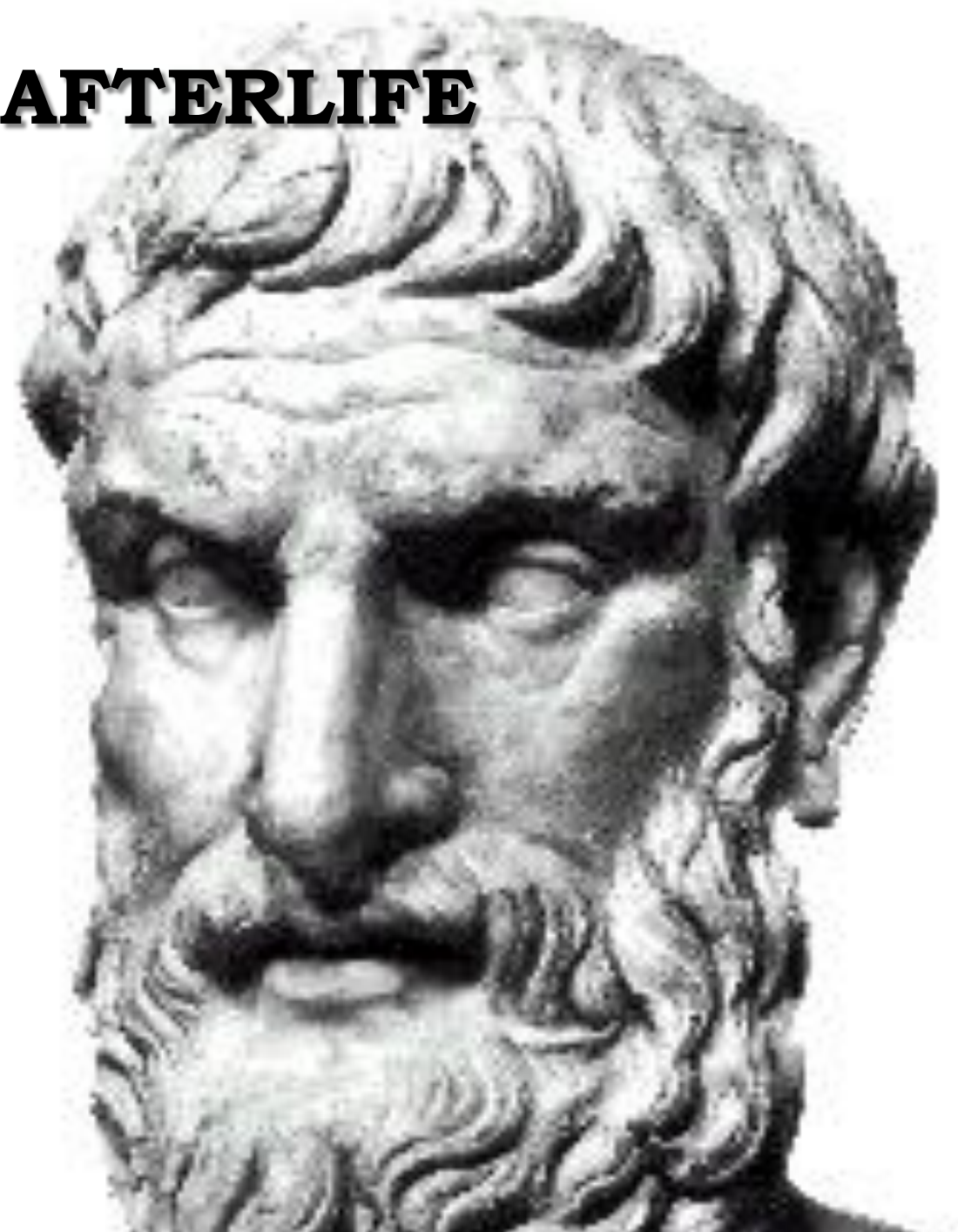
CHRISTIANITY SUPPLANTED ALL GREEK AND ROMAN CULTURE

- Because of the doctrine of resurrection
- Fulfills our longings for the future better than anything else
- The future is there , is personal and certain and unimaginably wonderful
- The future was personal....you still can feel and hug and have a body

GREEKS -- NO AFTERLIFE

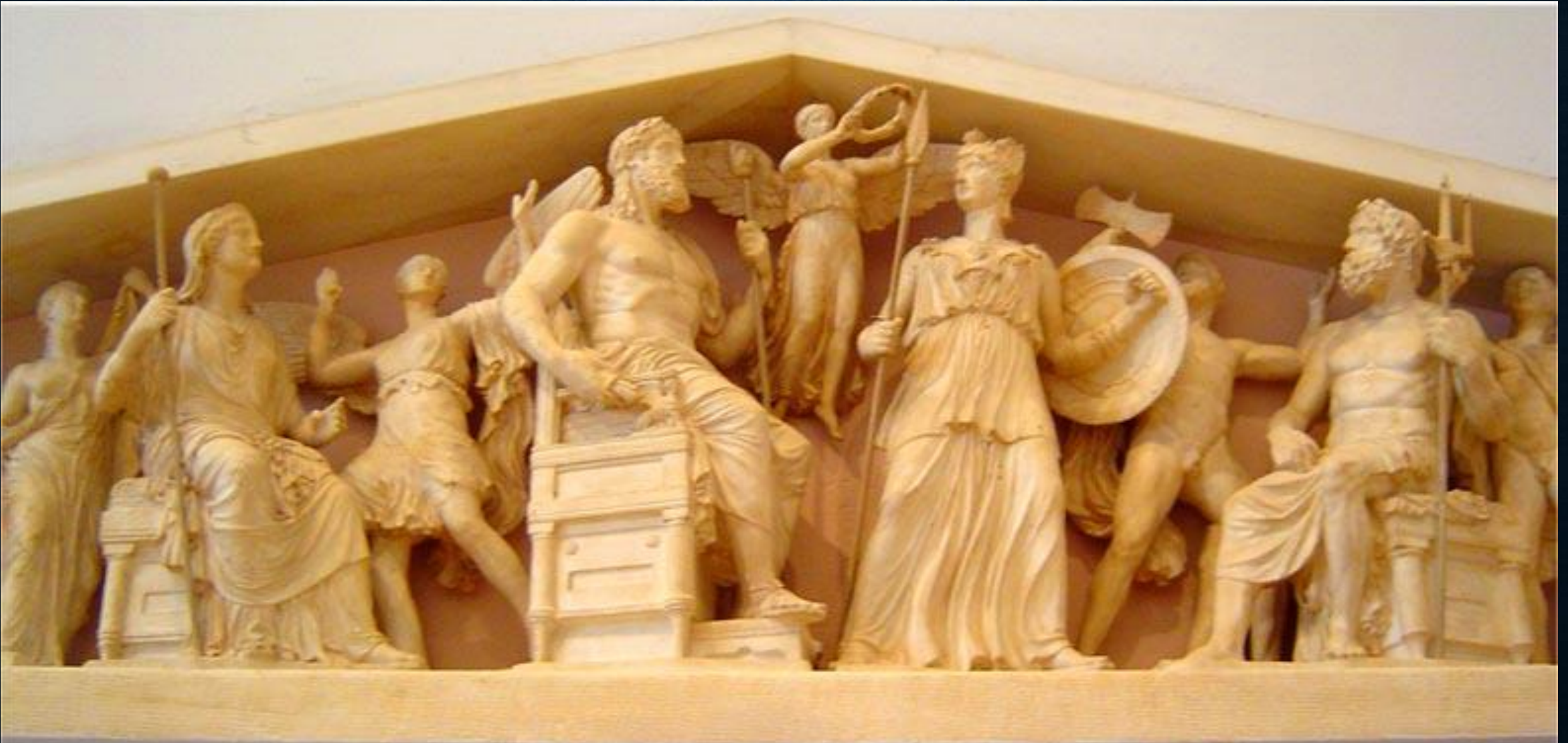
Epicurus says:
“Life is good!

Make sure to
enjoy it.”



GREEK POPULAR BELIEF

- After life. No one actually sure



HINDU , BUDDHIST

- Loose you individuality
- Drop of water in an ocean
- Circle of life



PROBLEM IS NO LOVE THERE





"When I first saw it, it took my heart, and made me cry for about 20 minutes. It helped me heal the burden of my despair and gave me closure on the whole catastrophe."

Frank Silecchia

RESURRECTION PROMISES A PERSONAL FUTURE



Can hug and feel

What good is there to say future is personal if you are not here to enjoy it?

FUTURE IS CERTAIN

- Acts 13:27-28 For those who live in Jerusalem and
th If he did not die for his own sins when nor
u who did he die for ? are
read every Sabbath, fulfilled them by condemning
him. 28 And though they found in him no guilt
worthy of death, they asked Pilate to have him
executed

He did not die for his own sin

Resurrection vindicated him then who did he die for

Acts 13:38-39 Let it be known to you therefore, brothers, that through this man forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you, 39 and by him everyone who believes is freed from everything from which you could not be freed by the law of Moses

IMMEDIATE RESPONSE

Acts 13:42-43 (ESV) As they went out, the people begged that these things might be told them the next Sabbath. 43 And after the meeting of the synagogue broke up, many Jews and devout converts to Judaism followed Paul and Barnabas, who, as they spoke with them, urged them to continue in the grace of God.

LATER RESPONSE

Acts 13:44-47 (ESV) The next Sabbath almost the whole city gathered to hear the word of the Lord. 45 But when the Jews saw the crowds, they were filled with jealousy and began to contradict what was spoken by Paul, reviling him. 46 And Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly, saying, “It was necessary that the word of God be spoken first to you. Since you thrust it aside and judge yourselves unworthy of eternal life, behold, we are turning to the Gentiles. 47 For so the Lord has commanded us, saying, ““I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth.””

SUCCESS BELONGS TO THE LORD

Acts 13:48-52 (ESV) And when the Gentiles heard this, they began rejoicing and glorifying the word of the Lord, and as many as were appointed to eternal life believed. 49 And the word of the Lord was spreading throughout the whole region. 50 But the Jews incited the devout women of high standing and the leading men of the city, stirred up persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and drove them out of their district. 51 But they shook off the dust from their feet against them and went to Iconium. 52 And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.

GREATEST EVIDENCE

