

**EXPOSITORY SERMON SERIES ON THE BOOK OF ACTS, #31**  
**Section Three, “The Foreign Emphasis,” Part One**  
**“Paul is a Pioneer for the Continuation of the Church,” #1**  
**“Paul Exclaims the Christ- The First Missionary Journey,” Part One**  
**“The Commencement of the First Missionary Journey,” #1**  
**“Paul’s Miracle Produces a Conversion,” 13:1-12**  
**Dr. Greg Tyree, BBC, PM, August 8, 2004**

**INTRODUCTION:**

We have completed our look at:

- 1) The Founding Emphasis of the Early Church- Simon (Chapters 2-5).
- 2) The Forward Emphasis of the Early Church- Stephen (Chapters 6-12)

As we enter the second half of the Book of Acts, and the third major section, we will see...

- 3) The Foreign Emphasis of the Early Church- Saul (Chapters 13-28).
  - a) Paul is a Pioneer for the Continuation of the Church, 13:1-21:26.
  - b) Paul is a Prisoner for the Cause of the Church, 21:27-28:31.

As we begin with the section, “Paul is a Pioneer for the Church,” we shall break it down into three themes:

- 1) Paul Exclaims the Christ- First Missionary Journey, 13:1-15:35.
- 2) Paul Expands the Church- Second Missionary Journey, 15:36-18:23a.
- 3) Paul Encourages the Congregations- Third Missionary Journey, 18:23b-21:26.

**SneakPreview:** While the places for the preaching of the Gospel may be diverse, and the results are varied, the purpose is always the same- to bring sinners to Christ!

**PROPOSITION:** In this passage we shall consider three phases of the wonder wrought by Paul that will discipline a rejecting man and lead to the salvation of a receptive man.

**I. CONSIDER THE PREPARATION OF THE WORKER WHO PERFORMS THE WONDER. Vss. 1-3.**

- A. The **Preparation** of the Holy Saints Prepares the Missionaries. Vs. 1, 2a.
- B. The **Consecration** of the Holy Spirit Prepares the Missionaries. Vs. 2b.
- C. The **Separation** of the Holy Servants Prepares the Missionaries. Vs. 3.

**LifePoint** One: Just like Paul, Christians are separated for God at their Conception, their Conversion, and their Calling.

**II. CONSIDER THE PREACHING OF THE WORD THAT PROVOKES THE WITNESS. Vss. 4-8.**

- A. The **Region** of the Preaching is Strategic. Vss. 4, 5.
- B. The **Recipients** of the Preaching are Seeking. Vss. 6, 7.
- C. The **Resistance** to the Preaching is Strong. Vs. 8.

**LifePoint** Two: We are told to “go tell.” It is not up to us to “bear fruit,” but to “be faithful.” We may “plant and water,” but it is God who “brings the increase!”

**III. CONSIDER THE PERFORMANCE OF THE WONDER THAT PUNISHES THE WICKED. Vss. 9-12.**

- A. The **Means** of the Wonder is Divine. Vs. 9.
- B. The **Message** of the Wonder is Disturbing. Vs. 10.
- C. The **Manifestation** of the Wonder is Dynamic. Vs. 11.
- D. The **Meaning** of the Wonder is Deliverance. Vs. 12.

**LifePoint** Three: Saul was blinded that he might see; Elymas was blinded because he refused to see. Either way, we can only see again by the light of God’s Word.

**APPLICATION:**

**PowerPoint:** While God often turns people to Himself by manifesting healings and signs of comfort, often He saves people by revealing His righteous judgment.