



CAPITOL COMMISSION™

Receive Christ Today: Many Will Not Possibly Believe!

JUNE 15-17, 2016

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Acts 13:29-41 *“And when they had carried out all that was written concerning Him, they took Him down from the cross and laid him in a tomb. 30) But God raised Him from the dead; 31) and for many days He appeared to those who came up with Him from Galilee to Jerusalem, the very ones who are now His witnesses to the people. 32) And we preach to you the good news of the promise made to the fathers, 33) that God has fulfilled this promise to our children in that He raised up Jesus, as it is also written in the second Psalm, ‘THOU ART MY SON; TODAY I HAVE BEGOTTEN THEE.’ 34) And as for the fact that He raised Him up from the dead, no more to return to decay, He has spoken in this way: ‘I WILL GIVE YOU THE HOLY and SURE blessings OF DAVID.’ 35) Therefore He also says in another Psalm, ‘THOU WILT NOT ALLOW THY HOLY ONE TO UNDERGO DECAY.’ 36) For David, after he had served the purpose of God in his own generation, fell asleep, and was laid among the fathers, and underwent decay; 37) but He whom God raised did not undergo decay. 38) Therefore let it be known to you, brethren, that through Him forgiveness of sin is proclaimed to you, 39) and through Him everyone who believes is freed from all things, from which you could not be freed through the Law of Moses. 40) Take heed therefore, so that the thing spoken of in the Prophets may not come upon you: 41) ‘BEHOLD, YOU SCOFFERS, AND MARVEL, AND PERISH; FOR I AM ACCOMPLISHING A WORK IN YOUR DAYS, A WORK WHICH YOU WILL NEVER BELIEVE, THOUGH SOMEONE SHOULD DESCRIBE IT TO YOU.’ (NASB)*

“SEEK THE LORD WHILE HE MAY BE FOUND; CALL UPON HIM WHILE HE IS NEAR. LET THE WICKED FORSAKE HIS WAY, AND THE UNRIGHTEOUS MAN HIS THOUGHTS; AND LET HIM RETURN TO THE LORD, AND HE WILL HAVE COMPASSION ON HIM; AND TO OUR GOD, FOR HE WILL ABUNDANTLY PARDON.” ISAIAH 55:6-7

Did the Jews struggle with the fact that there were two seemingly opposing lines of prophecies concerning their coming Messiah? What is the most important detail they had missed? Why did Paul not include himself as a witness of the resurrection? Does Paul present an imperative his listeners must do? Is it possible to earn salvation through obedience to the Law of God? Does this last verse have the strongest and most absolute negation available in the Greek language?

FOCUS ON FUTURE EVENTS:

- SEPTEMBER 16: *LIFT - LEGISLATIVE INVITATIONAL FISHING TOURNAMENT, DELTAVILLE, VA*
- NOVEMBER 8: *THIRTEENTH ANNUAL CAPITOL COOKOUT AND PRAYER WALK, CAPITOL SQUARE*

This mission team began with a God-ward focus and their power was in prayer and the ministry of the Word of God. With their message requested by Sergius Paulus in the capital of Cyprus, Saul, so urgent to see this king turn to the truth, immediately removed deceiving Bar-Jesus, now his eyes dark as his heart. The king promptly received Christ and Paul triumphantly carried his name thereafter in fulfillment of his commission (9:15). Now Paul is urgently presenting truth in the Galatian capital, Pisidian Antioch, that there is one Savior, Jesus alone.

“TO OPEN BLIND EYES ... AND THOSE WHO DWELL IN DARKNESS FROM THE PRISON.” ISAIAH 42:7

BIBLE STUDIES

WEDNESDAY @ 7:30AM – FREDERICKSBURG – BOB EVANS ON RT. 3 & 12:00 NOON – WOODBRIDGE – BOB EVANS, 14490 SMOKETOWN RD.

THURSDAY @ 7:00AM – BIBLE STUDY – CHESTER – SHONEY’S AT RT. 10 (IRON BRIDGE ROAD) & 301(12531 JEFFERSON DAVIS HIGHWAY)

FRIDAY @ 7:00 AM – BIBLE STUDY – NORFOLK – GOLDEN CORRAL, 6103 N. MILITARY HWY, NEAR THE NORFOLK AIRPORT

Virginia

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I. THE KEY OF PROPHECY

ACTS 13:29-30

All the Jews looked to God's promised son of David, "I will raise up your descendent after you, who will come forth from you, and I will establish his kingdom ... and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever" (2 Samuel 7:12-13). The great mystery in the prophecy of Isaiah, "Behold, My servant will prosper, He will be high and lifted up, and greatly exalted" (52:13) was difficult to reconcile with the next verse and especially the next chapter. "Surely our griefs He Himself bore, and our sorrows He carried; Yet we ourselves esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But He was pierced through for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; the chastening for our well being fell upon Him, and by His scourging we are healed. All of us like sheep have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; But the Lord has caused the iniquity of us all to fall on Him" (53:4-6). How could this promised one be an exalted king living forever and yet be killed by God with all our iniquity and sin upon him?

"IF THE MESSIAH HAS TO UNDERGO AN ATONING DEATH FOR THE SINS OF HIS PEOPLE BUT IS TO REIGN FOREVER, A RESURRECTION MUST DECISIVELY INTERVENE."

WILLIAM LARKIN

II. THE RELIABILITY OF WITNESSES

ACTS 13:31

One would surely expect Paul to have mentioned his own dramatic meeting with Jesus Christ as the Risen Lord, His radiant glory above the capability of the human eye, and thus he had even suffered temporary blindness. But Paul knew that the Jews would demand more than one witness (Deut. 17:6, 19:15) and they would be more persuaded by the witness of so many of "those who came up with Him from Galilee to Jerusalem" because they would be most likely to recognize him, and especially when "He appeared" to them "many days." There were over 500 witnesses (1 Cor. 15:6), many still residing in Jerusalem where these Jews would return for the yearly feasts.

III. THE SPECIFICITY OF SCRIPTURE ACTS 13:32-37

They knew the prophecies were true to which he had just provided the resurrection key, but now he had to prove from Scripture that it had been predicted beforehand. All the Jews agreed that Psalm two referred to the Messiah. Verse seven predicts His incarnation and resurrection tied together with His Sonship in the Trinity. From Isaiah 55:3, the "HOLY and SURE blessings OF DAVID" can only be given to a living Messiah who is not dead or decayed and this leads to the next passage, Psalm 16:10. Here David seems to be speaking of himself, but it is not possible because David has decayed, therefore by Isaiah 55:3, it refers to his son, the promised Messiah as "THY HOLY ONE" who will not "UNDERGO DECAY," proving again the resurrection was predicted in Scripture.

"ALL THOSE PROMISES AND COUNTLESS OTHERS REQUIRED THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS FOR THEIR FULFILLMENT. A DEAD MESSIAH FULFILLS NOTHING. THUS THOSE PROMISES ARE ALSO POWERFUL OLD TESTAMENT PROOFS THAT JESUS IS THE MESSIAH." JOHN MACARTHUR

IV. THE SIMPLICITY OF SALVATION ACTS 13:38-41

Based on the fact that Jesus is the proven Messiah, Paul begins with an imperative requiring them to know the good news that "through Him forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you." Thus Paul is proclaiming freedom from the condemnation of the "Law of Moses" through believing in Jesus Christ. Then He quotes a warning given earlier to the Jews, which they rejected, to their own destruction (Hab. 1:5). Three commands: "Behold, you scoffers, and marvel and perish (be utterly destroyed). For I am accomplishing a work in your days, a work which," literally, "ye will not possibly believe even if someone may constantly describe it in detail to you." Unbelievers may be blinded to truth forever!

Questions to Ponder:

- 1) Will you believe the evidence of so many prophecies, witnesses, and proofs of the resurrection and receive Jesus Christ?
- 2) Will you acknowledge the good news of complete forgiveness of your sins because Jesus paid for them on His cross?
- 3) Will you heed the warning and flee to Christ or find that belief is impossible because you are blinded by satan himself?