

# Sermon Handout

## The Guidance of the Holy Ghost

### Acts 13:13-15

#### I. The Geographic Setting & Its Meaning

- a. Perga – 8 miles from the Cestrus River in Pamphylia  
Paul & company sail from Paphos to Perga 13:13
- b. Antioch – “Pisidian Antioch”  
It was actually in Pamphylia, close to the Pisidian border  
It was the principal city of southern Galatia
- c. It was the Holy Spirit’s intent that Galatia be evangelized early  
Consider Paul’s 2<sup>d</sup> journey (and again on the 3<sup>d</sup> journey)
  - i. “Let us go back . . . “ 15:36
  - ii. Syria, Cilicia, Derbe, Lystra 15:41-16:1
  - iii. Phrygia & Galatia 16:4-6a
  - iv. Paul’s 1<sup>st</sup> letter is to the Christians of south Galatia

#### II. John Mark’s Departure

- a. Luke gives no reason, only a brief statement 13:13b
- b. Clarity provided later 15:38  
He “would not go with them *to the work*”  
Lack of submission to Apostolic authority
- c. Insight into Paul’s early presence in Galatia Gal 4:13-14  
The means used by the HS was affliction (illness) *cf.* II Cor 11:26
- d. The purpose  
Churches established in Antioch, Iconium, Lystra, Derby  
Timothy comes via the church in Lystra 16:1-5
- e. Paul does preach in Perga, but never visits it again.

#### III. Further Affirmation of Guidance by the Holy Ghost

- a. In Phrygia & Galatia – prohibition on going west 16:6  
Asia ministry deferred to later 18:18-19, 23; 19:1; 20:18ff
- b. At Mysia – prohibition on going north 16:7  
Resulting in the evangelization of Greece 16:8-12 *esp.* v. 10

#### IV. Lessons

- a. God had a specific plan of fulfillment of Acts 1:8
- b. Apostolic guidance was unique (his will *for them*) Jn 16:1-16
- c. God’s will *for us* is purity (sanctification) I Thess 4:1-12