



# unexpected

THE DIVINE   IN BETWEEN

ACTS 13:13-52

## the cost of victory

*After the reading from the Law and the Prophets, the rulers of the synagogue sent a message to them, saying, "Brothers, if you have any word of encouragement for the people, say it." So Paul stood up ... vv. 15-16a*

### I. The cost of victory was paved by a \_\_\_\_\_ God. (vv. 13-25)

*... and motioning with his hand said, "Men of Israel and you who fear God, listen. The God of this people Israel chose our fathers and made the people great during their stay in the land of Egypt, and with uplifted arm he led them out of it. And for about forty years he put up with them in the wilderness." vv. 16b-18*

### II. The cost of victory was provided by a \_\_\_\_\_ God. (vv. 26-41)

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

### III. The cost of victory is proclaimed by the \_\_\_\_\_ of God. (vv. 42-52)

*The next Sabbath almost the whole city gathered to hear the word of the Lord. But when the Jews saw the crowds, they were filled with jealousy and began to contradict what was spoken by Paul, reviling him. 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. 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.'" vv. 44-47*

Accept the  
victory  
in Jesus!

Fear God to understand your need and accept His \_\_\_\_\_. (vv. 16, 26)

Continue in the grace of God to experience \_\_\_\_\_. (v. 43)

Stand on His promises to be filled with \_\_\_\_\_. (v. 52)

## SERMON DEVOTIONAL STUDY

**"THE LORD JESUS CHRIST WAS** the most troubling preacher who ever spoke. ... He Himself stated the divisiveness of the gospel in Matthew 10:34-36: 'Do not think that I came to bring peace on the earth; I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I came to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; and a man's enemies will be the members of his household.' ... In Romans 1:16 Paul describes the gospel as 'the power of God for salvation.' The Greek word translated 'power' is *dunamis*, from which our English word 'dynamite' derives. It refers to the positively dramatic transformation of those who believe. When the gospel is preached with power and conviction, the results can also be negatively explosive. For the gospel first confronts sinners with the law and judgment, then the grace of God in Christ. Such a confrontation and exposure of guilt, shame and doom, along with the offer of salvation by grace, demands a response; it often forces people to rather passionate rejection. It exposes them as the helpless sinners they are and strips them of their self-righteous pretenses and aspirations. And that stripping often infuriates those who reject the message. ... The gospel does not gather everyone together, nor is it a generally tolerable opinion that nonbelievers can take or leave. Instead it splits people, dividing the penitent from the hardhearted, the saved from the unsaved, the righteous from the reprobate, those who love its truth from those who reject it."

JOHN MACARTHUR

Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal His truth and wisdom as you go through this lesson.

1. Read Acts 13:13-52. In the first part of his sermon, Paul traces Israelite history. What episodes does he mention?  
vv. 16-19  
vv. 20-22  
vv. 23-25  
vv. 26-31

2. Next Paul explains the significance of these historical events. What has God promised the Jews that He has now fulfilled (see vv. 32-37)?

What will happen if the Jews believe what Paul claims about Jesus (see vv. 38-39)?

3. Why did the Gentiles receive the gospel so much more eagerly than the Jews did? Why do some who hear the gospel find it so hard to accept that works can't justify a person?

4. How has this sermon encouraged you to accept the cost that God's grace paid for your victory, and to experience freedom instead of striving to be worthy?

5. How have you let your joy in Jesus' victory slip away lately? What about that joy do you need to meditate on and recapture today?

6. Does verse 47 express your own personal mission? If so, what steps can you take to fulfill it better?

### A WONDERFUL OFFER

Being a Christian isn't based on membership in a local church or keeping a set of rules. It involves a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and an understanding of who He is and what He has done to provide man with a way to experience God's love for us. Here's how to know Jesus Christ as your personal Savior:

1. Realize that you are sinful and separated from God. (Romans 3:23; Isaiah 53:6)
  2. Recognize that the penalty for your sin is death—eternal separation from God and all that is good. (Romans 6:23; Hebrews 9:27)
  3. Understand that Jesus Christ took the penalty for your sin by dying in your place and that He rose again. (Romans 5:8; 2 Corinthians 5:21)
  4. Receive the free gift of salvation by trusting in Christ alone as your Savior. (Romans 4:4-5; Ephesians 2:8-9)
- "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life." (John 3:16 NASB) You can use this prayer to express your decision to God:  
*"Dear God, I know that I am a sinner. I believe that Jesus Christ died on the cross for me and rose from the dead. I trust in Him alone as the only way to get right with You. Thank You for the forgiveness of sins and the eternal life I now have. Amen."*

For more about having a personal relationship with Jesus visit [www.ccbcfamily.org/nextsteps](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/nextsteps).

## COMING UP AT CHRIST CHAPEL

Here's a glimpse at what you need to know for this week at Christ Chapel. If you'd like to find out even more, visit [www.ccbcfamily.org/events](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/events).



### ELDER AND DEACON

**NOMINATIONS** This Sunday, and for the past three, this QR code will take you to see our full list of Elder and Deacon candidates. This list has been unanimously approved by our Board of Elders, and there you'll also find the constitutional requirements for these leadership positions. If you are a constitutional member of Christ Chapel, you'll have received a voting link on Friday to cast your vote anytime between then and today at 11 a.m. The results will be announced today at the Annual Meeting in the Sanctuary at the Fort Worth Campus at 1 p.m.

**HEY, CHRIST CHAPEL FAMILY** We're asking for 100 people who want to make disciples and pour into the next generation to come join us in Kids Ministry! It's two hours of the week that will change a kid's life as they continue to hear and see the Gospel in action. If your next step in being a disciple is saying yes to a morning in Kids Ministry, then sign up today by visiting [www.ccbcfamily.org/grow](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/grow).

**FAMILY VISION NIGHT** Join us for our Family Vision Night! We'll be here in the Sanctuary tonight from 5 to 7 p.m. All families with students in Grades 5-12 are invited to enjoy dinner together, connect with other families, meet the Fort Worth Campus team and learn about the vision for the upcoming year in student ministry! No RSVP is required. See you there!

**AVENEW** Whether you're dating, engaged or newly married, there's a spot for you at AVENEW this fall. This class walks with couples through topics every relationship encounters while pointing back to Jesus and what His Word says about relationships, communication, conflict and more. Find details today by visiting [www.ccbcfamily.org/avenew](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/avenew).

**WOMEN IN THE WORD: DAVID'S SONGS** A place to connect, grow and learn, Women in the Word is a ministry designed for women of all ages to be in community around God's Word! This fall, join the Women in the Word study on Psalms at [www.ccbcfamily.org/wiw](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/wiw).

**BAND OF BROTHERS: THE ROAD LESS TRAVELED** Starting this fall, Band of Brothers will continue their journey through Exodus and witness the steadfast faithfulness God has for his people. To learn more about Band of Brothers, and this upcoming study, visit [www.ccbcfamily.org/bob](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/bob).

**ENCOURAGED & EQUIPPED** Our Women's ministry has an incredible resource for you! Search for the Encouraged & Equipped podcast and hear stories from other CCBC women as they share about how the gospel has changed their lives. Find it today on your favorite podcast platforms.



### LOOKING FOR THE CONNECT

**CARD?** Scan the QR code here to fill out a Connect Card. Our team will reach out this week to answer your questions and tell you more about Christ Chapel.

**IF YOU'D LIKE TO GIVE AN OFFERING TODAY, YOU CAN DO SO STRAIGHT FROM YOUR PHONE.** The process is quick and easy—text GIVE to 24253 to get started.