

# A Light to the Gentiles

*Acts 13.43-52*

- **Paul's synagogue sermon vs 17-41**
  - Jesus - fulfilment of God's long-term plans for his people vs 17-23**
  - **God's long-promised eternal Saviour-King vs 23-37**  
**by his resurrection**
  - **our God-given source of forgiveness vs 38-41**
  - a powerful climax vs 39-40**
  - a passionate appeal vs 40-41**  
**believe, don't scoff**
- **they begged for more! v42**

# THE DYNAMICS OF EVANGELISM

## 1. God's Message of Salvation is to be Presented to Everyone

- *first to the Jews*  
*recipients of God's revelation*  
*Paul's own people Rom 9.1-5; 10.1*
- *then to the Gentiles*  
*always central to God's plan*  
*Gen 12.2-3; Ps 9.11; 67.1-4,7;*  
*Isaiah 49.6; Acts 26.16-20*  
*start with church connections;*  
*move on to unchurched*

## 2. Paul Focussed on the Responsive

- *amongst synagogue adherents vs43*  
*small groups from large gatherings*
- *amongst the Gentiles vs45-46*  
*don't allow the abusive to prevent*  
*outreach to the responsive*

### 3. Human and Divine Factors are at work in Conversion and Discipleship

- *God appoints, we believe v46;  
John 6.37,44*
- *those who reject Christ have only themselves to blame v46  
- the problem of pride*
- *Christian discipleship is about  
- enjoying God's grace v43  
John 1.12; Rom 5.2;  
Acts 4.33; 11.23; Eph 2.8; Heb 13.9  
- honouring God's Word v46  
2 Thess 3.1*
- *our deepest joy stems from  
the Spirit's filling v52*

### 4. Joy-filled New Believers make Good Evangelists

- *they gathered others v44*
- *they spread the word v49*

## 5. The Gospel's impact provokes great Persecution

- **conversion involves loss**  
**as well as great gain** **Mat 16.24**  
**some prefer to cling to status**
- **Satan doesn't give up his own**  
**easily** **v50; 2 Tim 3.11**
- **The Gospel's cutting edge**  
**accept Christ,**  
**or be a nobody** **Mark 6.11**