

Success Provokes Opposition

Acts 14.1-7

1. Effective Preaching

Produces Converts, v1

- *faith comes from hearing
the message **Rom 10.17**
miracles on their own
are never enough vs 11-12*
- *the pattern was familiar
first, to the Jews **13.5,14; 17.2-3***
- *the power was from God's Spirit
not human skill **1 Cor 2.1-5***

2. Conversions Provoke Opposition, v2

- *the source of opposition
those who rejected the Gospel*
- *the tactics employed
character assassination*

3. Opposition produced a New Determination, vs3-4

- *their commitment to the city*
ample time for the task
- *their reliance on the Lord*
for strength 2 Tim 2.1
- *their message of God's grace*
John 1.12; Eph 2.8;
Acts 13.43; 20.24
- *their confirming miracles*
changed lives
- *their divisive impact v4*
acceptance or rejection
Mat 7.13-14; 12.30; 10.34-36

4. Life-threatening Situations Justify Withdrawal, vs 5-7

- *not unwilling to suffer 13.45,50*
- *not afraid to die 7.60-8.1*
but wanting to share
God's good news v7