



The Commissioning Service

Acts 13:1 Now there were in the church that was at Antioch certain prophets and teachers; as Barnabas, and Simeon that was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen, which had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul.

2 As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them.

3 And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid *their* hands on them, they sent *them* away.



Tonight, in essence, we are having a very important business meeting, taking care of the Lord's business, according to the Scriptures.

The first recorded comments of the Lord Jesus Christ after His resurrection is found in Jn. 20:21:

Jn. 20:21 Then said Jesus to them again, Peace *be* unto you: **as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you.**



THE GREAT COMMISSION

Mt. 28:18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

19 **Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:**

20 **Teaching them** to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, *even* unto the end of the world. Amen.

Mark 16:15 And he said unto them, **Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel** to every creature.



Luke 24:47 And that **repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations**, beginning at Jerusalem.

Acts 1:8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and **ye shall be witnesses unto me both** in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

I. THE GODLY EXAMPLE AT ANTIOCH, 13:1

Acts 13:1 Now there were in the church that was at Antioch certain prophets and teachers; as Barnabas, and Simeon that was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen, which had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul.



A. The History

Acts 11:22 Then tidings of these things came unto the ears of **the church which was in Jerusalem: and they sent forth Barnabas, that he should go as far as Antioch.** ...

25 Then departed Barnabas to Tarsus, for to seek Saul:

26 And when he had found him, he brought him unto Antioch. And it came to pass, that **a whole year they assembled themselves with the church**, and taught much people. And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch.

B. The Heritage – “...Barnabas, and Simeon that was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen, which had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul.”



❖ The church is the training ground for all servants of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Eph. 4:11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, **evangelists**; and some, pastors and teachers;

12 **For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:**

1 Cor. 14:12 Even so ye, forasmuch as ye are zealous of spiritual *gifts*, **seek that ye may excel to the edifying of the church.**



II. THE GODLY EXERCISE AT ANTIOCH, 13:2-3

A. They Were Remarkable in Service, 13:2a



1. They Were Spiritual – “As they **ministered to the Lord...**”

2. They Were Sincere – “As they ministered to the Lord, **and fasted...**”

Mark 9:29 And he said unto them, This kind can come forth by nothing, **but by prayer and fasting.**

Dan. 9:3 And **I set my face unto the Lord God, to seek by prayer and supplications, with fasting,** and sackcloth, and ashes:

Isa. 58:5 Is it such a fast that I have chosen? a day for a man **to afflict his soul?** *is it* to bow down his head as a bulrush, and to spread sackcloth and ashes *under him?* wilt thou call this a fast, and an acceptable day to the LORD?



B. They Were Responsive to the Spirit,
13:2b "...he Holy Ghost said, Separate me
Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have
called them."

Gal. 5:16 *This* I say then, **Walk in the Spirit**, and ye
shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh. ...

25 If we **live in the Spirit**, let us also **walk in the
Spirit**.

Eph. 5:18 And be not drunk with wine, wherein is
excess; but **be filled with the Spirit**;

Acts 1:8a "But ye shall receive **power, after that
the Holy Ghost is come upon you**: and **ye shall be
witnesses unto me...**"



C. They Were Ready for Sacrifice, 13:3

Acts 13:3 And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid *their* hands on them, they sent *them* away.

1. Praying for Barnabas and Saul. 13:3a – “And when they had fasted and prayed...”
2. Partners with Barnabas and Saul, 13:3b – “... and laid *their* hands on them...”
3. Parting with Barnabas and Saul, 13:3c – “...they sent *them* away.”



Conclusion

2 Cor. 8:23 Whether *any do enquire* of Titus, *he is* **my partner and fellowhelper** concerning you: or our brethren *be enquired of, they are* the messengers of the churches, *and* **the glory of Christ.**

24 Wherefore shew ye to them, and before the churches, **the proof of your love**, and of our boasting on your behalf.