

BUILDING YOUR SUPPORT TEAM

“GUARDING JOY”

Acts 13:1-13

Lesson #31

June 19, 2022

REVIEW:

A. John Mark Acts 13:1-5

- 1) A new apostolic team is formed with two of the prominent members of the church at Antioch.
- 2) John Mark is picked as their assistant.
- 3) What joy and expectation all must have been filled with!
- 4) Is this Godly joy or mere human or emotional?

B. Bar-Jesus Acts 13:6-13

- 1) He is identified as a sorcerer and a false prophet by Luke right away, but it may not have been so straight forward.
- 2) Name - can mean lateral or figurative name. It may have been given by himself or others.
- 3) Bar - son of and is used in many names like Bartholomew, Barnabas, Basabbas, Bar-Jonah.
- 4) Followers are often called sons and either this man identified himself or was seen as a Jesus follower.
- 5) He may not have been a sorcerer. One would think this would have made his falseness easy to see.
- 6) Elymus
- 7) Son of the devil - not using the “bar” prefix, but the word *huios* - mature son.

- 8) Upon confrontation, his spiritual blindness becomes natural blindness.
- 9) What the enemy did to turn the leaders away, backfired and helped to turn them toward the faith.
- 10) (13) John departs. How is his Joy so quickly dashed to pieces?

C. Spiritual Joy (strength)

- 1) Spiritual joy is based on and fueled by belief in and thinking on **THE PROMISES OF THE FUTURE**.
- 2) Natural joy is based on and fueled by thinking on **THE THINGS WE SEE AND FEEL** and the **EXPECTATIONS WE DERIVED FROM THEM**
- 3) To take you down spiritually, the enemy only needs to divert your joy from **WHAT GOD PROMISED** to **WHAT YOU SEE** and **FEEL**
- 4) The difference between what you expect and what you believe will happen is small and not measurable by your mind or flesh, but discerned by your spirit.
- 5) Elijah is a great example of how a strong believer can make the change and not realize it.
- 6) Israel and the flight to Egypt (Jeremiah 42-43)

APPLICATION: Places we can see the comparison of natural and spiritual joy.