**Paul’s Sermon at Antioch of Pisidia**

**(Acts 13:15-41)**

1. **Setting**
   1. Preached this sermon in Antioch of Pisidia during his first missionary journey (AD 48)
   2. See Map
   3. Sermon was preached in the synagogue, meaning that the audience was Jewish (16), and Paul spoke at their request (15)
2. **Sermon**
   1. Israel the chosen people of God (17)
   2. Short history of Jewish nation (17-22)
   3. **Note:** from this history [esp. the reign of David], an appeal is made concerning the promised Messiah (23), with Paul claiming Jesus to be that Messiah.
   4. John the Baptist as forerunner (24-25)
   5. Paul appealed to the Jews here as those who “fear God” in contrast to the leaders in Jerusalem (26-27)
   6. Jewish leadership responsible for Jesus’ death (28)
   7. Resurrection proclaimed (29-31)
   8. Old Testament prophecies as witness (32-37)
   9. Conclusion: Salvation is through Jesus (38-39)
   10. Warning: Prophecy predicted some would not believe… let it not be so among them! (40-41)
3. **Response to the sermon**
   1. Many Jews accepted the words (43), as did the Gentiles later (48)
   2. The next Sabbath, when the Gentiles were added to the audience, the Jews became envious, and led a persecution of Paul and Barnabas (44-51)
4. **Considerations and Applications**
5. The Old Testament can be used to identify the Messiah
6. Preaching is successful, even if some are led to persecute the preacher due to envy

**Paul’s Sermon at Athens**

**(Acts 17:22-32)**

1. **Setting**
   1. Preached this sermon in Athens, Greece during his second missionary journey (AD 51)
   2. See Map
   3. Sermon was preached at the Areopagus on the top of Mars Hill (22) at the Athenians request (19)
2. **Sermon**
   1. References the altar to “The Unknown God”, and proclaims Jehovah to be that God (22-23)
   2. The true God is omnipotent (24), Self-sufficient (25), Sovereign (26), Accessible (27), and our Sustainer (28).
   3. Such a God should not be worshipped as an idol (29)
   4. The Athenians are called to repent of idolatry (30)
   5. Judgment is proclaimed, the proof of which is Jesus’ resurrection from the dead (31)
3. **Response to the sermon**
4. The proclaiming of Jesus’ resurrection from the dead caused dissension (32-33)
5. Some believed (34)
6. Responses: 1) Mock, [32]; 2) Consider, [32]; 3) Believe! [34]
7. **Considerations and Applications**
   1. The ultimate proof of Jesus as the Messiah, as well as the coming judgment of God is the resurrection of Jesus.
   2. Note that the resurrection was proclaimed both to the Jew and Gentile
   3. The evidence concerning the resurrection is the basis of our faith. The apostles were eyewitnesses. The open minded individual will consider the testimony. The close-minded (then and now) will mock.