

They were worshiping together

A very diverse group at Antioch

Prophets

Teachers

Barnabas

Simeon called Niger (from latin, dark)

Lucius of Cyrene

Manaen, a childhood friend of Herod Antipas

Saul

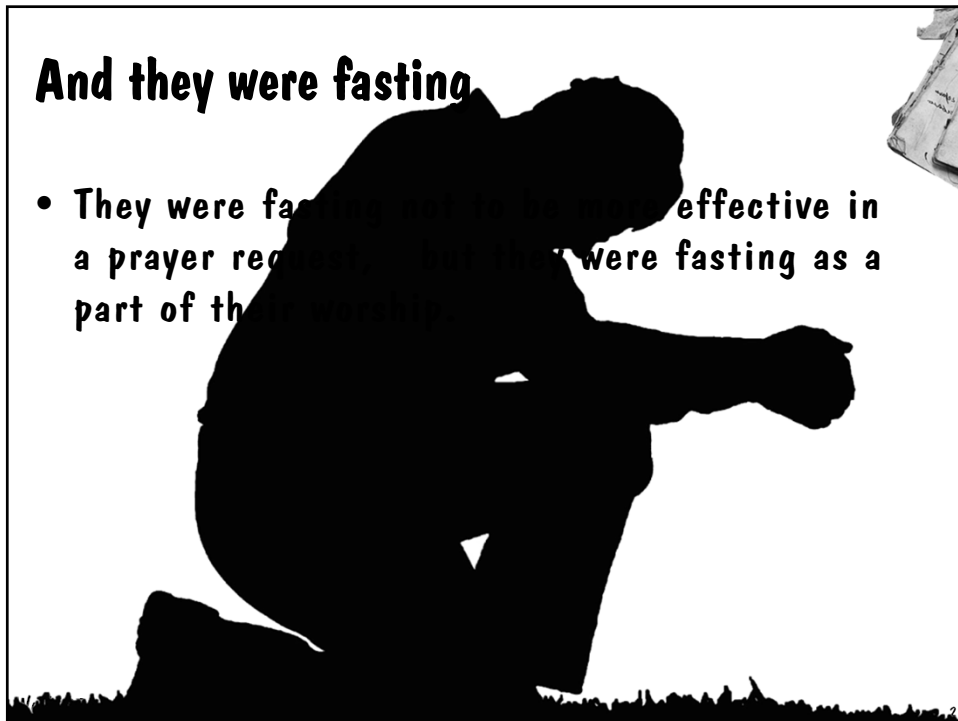
And others . . .

Week 07

1

And they were fasting

- They were fasting as a way of being effective in a prayer request. They were fasting as a part of the spiritual discipline.



And God spoke to them

- They started their new missions as a result of working in a response than a well laid plan.
- We need to be open to God's leading when planning how we will do the work we have on our agenda.

Bi 203 — Acts Fall, 2015

Were Elders a new Idea for Paul In the church?

Consider:

e.g., Ex. 3:16; Num. 11:16;
Josh. 24:31; 1 Kings 20:7; Ezra
5:5; Matt. 16:21; Acts 22:5).

Week 07

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What qualifications do you think Paul used for selecting Elders ?

Note, it is 49CE.

Does 1 Tim 3 or Titus 1
Fit here, When were
these written?

Week 07

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Paul's Qualifications for Elders written to Timothy & Titus

1 Timothy		Titus	
3:2	above reproach	1:6, 7	above reproach
3:2	husband of one wife	1:6	husband of one wife
3:2	sober-minded	1:8	disciplined
3:2	self-controlled	1:8	self-controlled
3:2	respectable		—
3:2	hospitable	1:8	hospitable
3:2	able to teach	1:9	able to give instruction
3:3	not a drunkard	1:7	not ... a drunkard
3:3	not violent but gentle	1:7	not ... violent
3:3	not quarrelsome	1:7	not be arrogant or quick-tempered
3:3	not a lover of money	1:7	not ... greedy for gain
3:4-5	manage his own household well, care for God's church	1:7	God's steward
3:4	keeping his children submissive	1:6	children are believers (or "faithful"), not insubordinate
3:6	not a recent convert		—
3:7	well thought of by outsiders		—
	—	1:8	a lover of good; upright, holy

Week 07

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James Speaks

James begins to speak, and quotes from Amos 9:11-12.

1) What were the main points of his message

2) What is the theme of his message:

Week 07

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James Speaks

James begins to speak, and quotes from Amos 9:11-12.

1) What were the main points of his message

- a) *The Davidic Dynasty will be restored*
- b) *Israel will enjoy world wide dominion*
- c) *Gentile nations will call upon God's name.*

2) What is the theme of his message:

What God is doing today in blessing the Gentiles is in harmony with His program for the future.

Week 07

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Why these four restrictions

Do not eat meat sacrificed to idols

Do not engage in sexual immorality

Do not consume blood

Was this just a compromise with the Law Holders

Do not eat the meat of strangled animals

Week 07

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All of these had to do with pagan worship

- *alisgēma* - means polluted, and is much broader than just foods, it has to do with anything that has been involved with or touched with idolatrous practices.
- *Porneia* - is being used much broader than sexual activity outside of marriage. The days pagan worship included explicit sexual activity that all gentile converts would have participated in. This needed to be curbed.

Week 07

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- ***Pniktos*** — has to do with strangled, or choked. As such the meat would still have the blood in it.

The point is that there was much pagan practice dealing with strangled animals, drinking of the blood and offering of the blood and blood soaked meat to idols which.

Week 07

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- These four were selected not only to make the Jews happy — they were also given to protect the new gentiles from practices that were idolatry, an open invitation for demonic presence and might have been a common practice in the life of the gentile believer prior to conversion.

Week 07

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**Why did they
propose these
4(3) things ?**

**Do not eat meat
sacrificed to idols**
**Do not engage in
sexual immorality**
Do not consume blood
**Do not eat the meat
of strangled animals.**

Week 07

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Considering,

- ***Sacrificed***, comes from a word that is **MUCH** broader. It has a meaning of polluted. It's context is also much broader, and applies to anything that is involved in pagan worship practices.

ie, The believer is not to be involved in any pagan practices because of it's connection to demons.

Week 07

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- ***Sexual Immorality:*** This has two qualifiers. The believer is to live a moral life. This command reflected the open sexual practices of the gentile converts in their prior lives.

Also, explicit sexual practice was a part of many pagan / idolatrous practices. The believer is not to be involved in these.

Week 07

15

- ***Meat of Strangled Animals and Blood:*** Many pagan practices involved the strangling of the animal and the sacrifice, or consuming of the blood filled meat. This was viewed as an practice that actively invited a demonic presence which as believers we are to avoid.

Week 07

16

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**SO THESE ISSUES WERE ITEMS THAT A
PRACTICING JEW MIGHT BE OFFENDED BY,
BUT ALSO BY SELECTING THESE ISSUES THE
COUNCIL WAS ALSO ENCOURAGING PROPER
LIVING AND PRACTICES IN THE LIVES OF THE
BELIEVERS**

Week 07

17



- Does this prohibition in Acts 15:29 prohibit a Christian from receiving a blood transfusion?

Week 07

18

The Team Divides

The confrontation between Paul and Barnabas had immediate impacts to their ministry

1. How might their ministries have been impacted?
2. What do you think might have happened had Barnabas NOT forced Paul to separate ... ?
3. What do you think the long term benefits were because Barnabas forced the separation and took John Mark with him?
4. What can we learn from this?