

## A Key Conversion on Cyprus Acts 13:1-12

### Commissioning of Barnabas and Saul/Paul, (1-4)

- ◆ The Spirit spoke audibly, cf. 8:29, 10:19,20, 11:7ff., possibly through a prophet.
- ◆ Note the context for the command and commissioning is fasting/worship/prayer.

### Confrontation of Saul and Bar-Jesus/Elymas, (5-11)

- ◆ The trip starts in Barnabas' homeland, 4:36. Some believers lived there, 11:19.
- ◆ How tragic to see a Jew leading Gentiles further into darkness! Neither name is appropriate for this loser (*Bar-Jesus* = son of salvation, *Elymas* = wise one)
- ◆ Elymas recalls Simon in 8:9,10; and his position isn't rare, Ex. 7:11, Dan. 2:1,2.
- ◆ How exactly does Elymas "oppose them"?

*Who might have been an Elymas in your life in the past?*

*Is there an Elymas in your life right now?*

- ◆ Note Paul is "filled with the Spirit" (as in 9:17, cf. 4:8, 31), none of which result in speaking in tongues but in bold speech. Temporary blindness recalls 9:8ff.

### Conversion of Sergius Paulus (12)

- ◆ The blinding of Elymas caused Sergius Paulus to be more responsive to Paul, but what "amazed" Sergius Paulus most was Paul's teaching (the gospel).
- ◆ What is so important about this man's belief in Christ?

