

**Part II**  
**“The Ministry Of Saul & Barnabas**  
**Yield Much Fruit In Antioch!”**

**Acts 11:25-30**

Then **Barnabas** departed for **Tarsus** to seek **Saul**. And when **He (Barnabas)** had found **Him (Saul)**, **He (Barnabas)** brought **Him (Saul)** to **Antioch**. So it was that for a whole year **They (Saul & Barnabas)** **Assembled** with the **Church** and **Taught** a **“Great Many People”**. And the **Disciples** were first called **“Christians”** in **Antioch**. And in these days **“Prophets”** came from **Jerusalem** to **Antioch**. Then one of **Them (A Prophet)**, named **Agabus**, stood up and **Showed (Propheesied)** by the **Holy Spirit** that **there was going to be a great famine throughout all the world**, which also happened in the **Days of Claudius Caesar**. Then the **Disciples** (in **Antioch**), each according to their own ability, determined to send relief to the **Brethren (Disciples)** dwelling in **Judea**. This **They (Disciples in Antioch)** also did, and sent it to the **Elders (Church Council in Jerusalem)** by the **Hands** of **Barnabas** and **Saul**. **Acts 11:25-30 (NKJV)**

**Q: “When Did We Last Encounter Saul / Paul In The Book Of Acts?”**

**A: 9 Years Ago – Late In The Year 37 A.D.**

And **He (Barnabas)** declared to **Them (Apostles)** how **He (Saul)** **had seen the Lord** on the Road (to Damascus), and that **He (Lord)** **Had Spoken (Rhema) to Him (Saul)**, and how **He (Saul)** **had preached boldly** at Damascus in the **‘Name of Jesus’ [And of Saul’s Escape from the City of Damascus with the help of the Disciples/Followers there]**. So, Saul was with **Them (Disciples/Followers)** at Jerusalem, coming in and going out (**for 15 days**). And **he spoke boldly in the ‘Name of the Lord Jesus’** and **disputed against the Hellenists**, but **they attempted to kill him**. When the **Brethren (Disciples/Followers)** found out, **They** brought him down to **Caesarea** and **sent him out to Tarsus** (Saul’s Birthplace/Hometown). **Acts 9:26-30**

**NOTE**

Now We Encounter Paul Again Still Laboring For Jesus Christ In Tarsus  
9 Years Later In Late 46 A.D.

Then **Barnabas** departed for **Tarsus** to seek **Saul**. And when **He (Barnabas)** had found **Him (Saul)**, **He (Barnabas)** brought **Him (Saul)** to **Antioch**. **Acts 11:25-26a**

**Q: “How Old Is Saul / Paul Now?”**

**A: 40 Years Old (Born 6 A.D. – Present Day 46 A.D.)**

**Q: “How Long Has It Been Since Paul’s Conversion To Christianity?”**

**A: 12-13 Years Ago (Reborn 33-34 A.D. – Present Day 46 A.D.)**

**NOTE**

Saul / Paul Will Write **13 # (14 #) Epistles** In The New Testament,  
He Will Also Take **4 # Missionary Journeys**, & Be **Martyred For The Faith** In Just **22 # Years!**  
**46 A.D. – 68 A.D.**

**Q: “What Two Primary Functions Do Apostles / Elders In The Church Perform To Encourage, Educate, & Equip God’s People?”**

**A1: Regular Assembly & Gathering Together**

**A2: Mentoring & Teaching**

So it was that for a whole year **They (Saul & Barnabas)** **Assembled** with the **Church** and **Taught** a **“Great Many People”** ... **Acts 11:26b**

**Q: "What Were Followers Of Jesus Christ As Lord Called Before This Time From 30 A.D. – 46 A.D.?"**

**A: "People of the Way"**

Now **Saul**, still breathing threats and murder against the **Disciples of the Lord**, went to the **High Priest (Caiaphas)**, and asked for **Letters (Warrants Of Authority, Legal Arrest & Extradition)** from him to the Synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any belonging to the **"Way"**, both men and women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. **Acts 9:1-2**

**"People of the Way" (x5)**

**(Acts 19:2, 19:9, 19:23, 24:14 & 24:22)**

**NOTE – New Simultaneous & Synonymous Names**

**"People of the Way" – "Christians"**

And the **Disciples** were first called **"Christians"** in **Antioch ... Acts 11:26c**

**"Christians" (x3)**

**x2 – Acts 11:26 & 26:28 & x1 – 1<sup>st</sup> Peter 4:16**

**Q: "Would Any Other Names Be Attached To The Followers Of Jesus Christ As Lord In The 1<sup>st</sup> Century AD?"**

**A – Yes**

**"Nazarenes" (x1)**

**Context: Saul / Paul On Trial Before The Governor Felix**

For we have found this **Man (Paul)** a plague, a **Creator of Dissension** among all the Jews throughout the World, and a **Ringleader** of the Sect of the **"Nazarenes"**. **Acts 24:5**

**NOTE**

**Today, Followers of Jesus Christ As Lord Are Called "Christians" Everywhere! However, We Gathered Here This Morning Are "Nazarene Christians"!**

**Before We Move On**

Let's Take A More Detailed Look At The Importance of the City Of **"Antioch"** **"Antioch on the Orontes"**

**1) Founded Circa 300 B.C. on the "Orontes River"**

**2) Named After Antiochus IV (Epiphanes) By His Son, Nicator**

**Famous Maccabean Revolt & War – Miracle & Feast Day Of Hannukah**

**3) Jewish Colonization Started Soon After Its Founding**

**4) Capital Of Syrian & Asia Minor Provinces In Roman Empire Since 64 B.C.**

**5) 3<sup>rd</sup> Largest Metropolitan & Ethnic Rich City Of Its Day – Pagan Religions Everywhere**

**6) Only Rome & Alexandria Were Larger & Of More Importance**

**7) Eventual Differing Theological Capitals Would Arise Between Antioch & Alexandria Answering To Rome As Their Head**

**8) Enlarged & Adorned By Emperor Augustus, Emperor Tiberius, & King Herod The Great**

**9) Commercial Trading Capital On Roman Road To Europe From Asia (Silk & Spice Road)**

**10) By 46 A.D. Primary Jewish Population Was Hellenist & Other Gentile Converts To Judaism**

**\* "Luke" The Author / Evangelists' Birthplace / Hometown – Antioch \***

**"Antioch on the Orontes"**

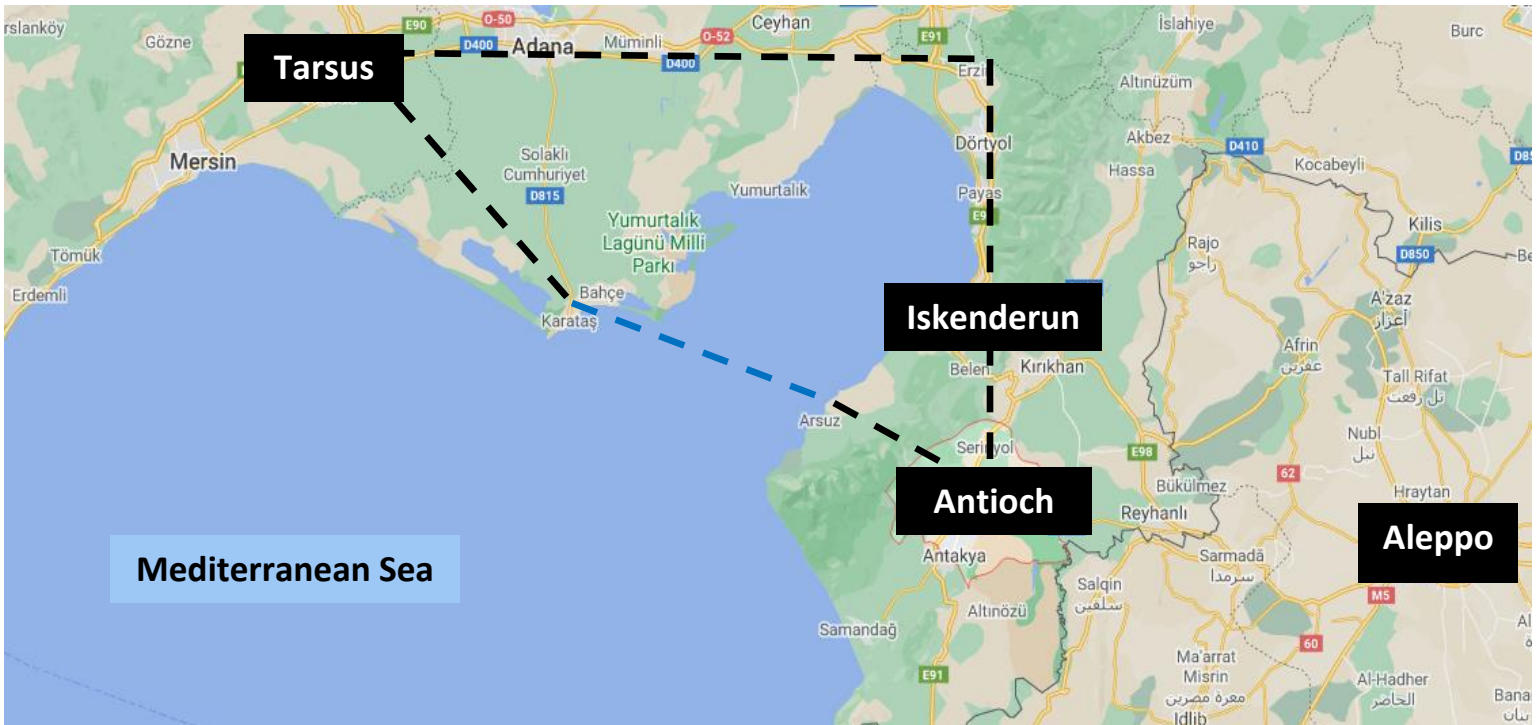
**1) Location - Modern Day City of "Antakya", Hatay Province, Turkey**

**2) Large River Port on the Orontes River Alongside "Iskenderun" (Sea Port)**

**3) 135 Miles By Land From "Tarsus" – – – – –**

**4) 75 Miles By Land & 25 Miles By Ship Across The "Bay of Iskenderun" From "Tarsus"**  
**– – – – –**

# Antioch On The Orontes



## Now Back To Today's Scripture

**Q:** *"After Jesus Christ Ascended Into Heaven, Were There Prophets In The Church?"*

And in these days **"Prophets"** came from Jerusalem to Antioch ... **Acts 11:27**

The Designation In English: **"Prophet"** Is From The Greek Word: **"Prophetai"**, which does not mean **"Prophet, Like A Chosen & Anointed Person"** From The Old Testament, Or **"Prophet"** Given In The New Testament To **"John The Baptist"** Or **"Jesus Of Nazareth"**.

In The New Testament **"Prophecy"** Means: **"To Be Given Divinely The Gift Of Prophecy"**. Prophecy In This Understanding Means One Gift In A List Of Gifts Given By Divine Will By God's Holy Spirit To Certain Individuals. Thus, These Individuals In The Christian Church Had A Special Gift Of Prophecy, But Are Not **True Prophets**, As Stated In The Rest Of The Holy Scriptures.

## Paul Teaches On The Gift Of Prophecy - Among A List Of Other Gifts In The Church

*"And God Has Appointed These in the Church: first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, varieties of tongues". Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Are all workers of miracles? Do all have gifts of healings? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret?"*

**1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 12:28-30** (Also: **14:24-32**)

*"And He Himself (Jesus Christ) gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the Equipping of the Saints for the Work of Ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ."*

**Ephesians 4:11-12**

## NOTE

Agabus, Was An Elder In The Church,

Who Had Been Given The Gift Of Prophecy By The Holy Spirit

Then one of **Them** (A Prophet), named **Agabus**, stood up and **Indicated** (Propheesied) by the **Holy Spirit** that there was going to be a great famine throughout all the world, which also happened in the **Days of Claudius Caesar** ... **Acts 11:28**

**NOTE – Agabus' Prophecy Given Early In The Spring Of 47 A.D.**

In The Reign Of Claudius Caesar There Were A Series Of Very Poor  
And Blighted Harvests Over A 7-Year Period From Fall 47 A.D. to Spring 54 A.D.

**Church Prophecy Fulfilled**

Judea & Jerusalem Faced A Severe Famine Late In The Year 47 A.D.  
This Famine Lasted Till Late Into The Year 48 A.D.

**NOTE**

That Means The Relief Effort Was Actually Being Organized & Sent Just Before It Was Actually  
Needed Because Of The Prophecy Given By The Holy Spirit's Direction To Agabus!  
... Then the **Disciples** (in **Antioch**), each according to their own ability, determined to send relief  
to the **Brethren (Disciples)** dwelling in **Judea**. This **They (Disciples in Antioch)** also did, and sent  
it to the **Elders (Church Council in Jerusalem)** by the **Hands of Barnabas and Saul. Acts 11:29-30**

**NOTE**

**This Is Paul's 2<sup>nd</sup> Visit To Jerusalem**

**1<sup>st</sup> Visit**

**10 Years Ago, In The Year 37 A.D.**

When Disciples Steal Him Away Aboard Ship To Tarsus – **Acts 9:28-30**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Visit**

Saul Sent With Barnabas To Deliver The Offering For The Jerusalem Church In **47 A. D.**

**Acts 11:30**

***"Then after fourteen years (since my conversion on the Road to Damascus)  
I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, and I also took Titus with me." ... Galatians 2:1***

**(See Entire Story - [Galatians 2:1-10](#))**

***Let Us Be God's Chosen & Called People,  
Living In Unity With The Holy Spirit & With One Another.  
Let Us Continue To Assemble Together Regularly,  
And All The More As The Day Of His Second Coming Approaches!  
Let Us Continue To Be Encouraged, Educated, & Equipped  
For Every Good Work & For The Preaching Of The Good News.  
Let Us Be Open To The Holy Spirit's Moving  
& Let Us Be Prophetic In These Last Days!  
Let Us Be A People Using Our Natural & Spiritual Gifts  
For The Good Of All In The Church & In Our Community.  
Let Us Be Giving Sacrificially To The Needs Of God's House & God's People,  
& To All Those We Serve Who Are In Desperate Need Of Salvation!***