

**Unhindered**  
**The Book of Acts**  
**The Business, Battle, and Blessing**  
**Acts 13**

- **Introduction**

- “The book of Acts is a constant indictment of mere maintenance Christianity. It’s a constant goad and encouragement and stimulation to fan the flame of Advent---‘The Son of Man came to seek and to save that which was lost.’” John Piper.
- “We somehow think that the Church is here for us; we forget that we are the Church, and we are here for the world.” Erwin McManus
- Acts 13 is a reminder of what the church business really is. That it is a battle from within and without to be about that business, but there is blessing when we stick to it faithfully.

- **The main business of the church is to promote God’s glory by obeying the Holy Spirit and fulfilling the Great Commission. (1-3)**

- The sovereignty of the Holy Spirit:
  - Initiates missions.
  - Calls people to missions.
  - Directs His work.
- Leadership must take time to worship and seek His will.
  - Godly leadership is exemplified by this.
  - Leadership does all it can to teach the Bible.
  - Leadership is ultimately plural not singular.
  - Leadership must be obedient to God’s direction.
- The Holy Spirit’s desire is God’s glory among the nations.

- **When we share the gospel, we engage in spiritual warfare, so we MUST be prepared. (4-12)**

- Sharing the gospel is to confront our enemy head on.
  - The enemy’s (Devil’s) tactics:
    - Holds people in spiritual blindness.
    - Uses deceit, fraud, and opposition to carry out his evil design.
    - Uses selfish motivation to keep people deceived.
  - We must be prepared to do spiritual battle. How?
    - Be filled with the Holy Spirit.
    - Confront false prophets and spiritual error at the Spirit’s leading.
    - Reach out to people who show spiritual interest in the things of God.
    - Present the gospel and the Bible clearly.
    - Do NOT mistake opposition or apathy and failure on your part.

- **God’s promise of Jesus demands a response. (13-41)**

- God promised to send a Savior.
  - God is moving all history according to His purpose to fulfill His promise.
  - God’s grace permeates His working in history.
  - God is moving all of history to culminate in Jesus.
- God’s promise comes to us through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

- **A response to Jesus is up to you and me.**

- God gives THREE promises:
  - Forgiveness of sins for those who believe in Jesus.
  - Justification before God for those who believe in Jesus.
  - Judgement for those who scoff at the first two.

- **Conclusion**

- Ephesians 1:3–14
- This is the business of the church, and it is a battle. It is also a blessing.
- Let us go out and give glory to God...unhindered.