

*You're In My Seat*

*Acts 13:13-52*

*But you belong to God, my dear children.  
You have already won a victory over those people,  
because the Spirit who lives in you  
is greater than the spirit  
who lives in the world.*

*1 John 4:4 <sup>NLT</sup>*

*<sup>13</sup>Paul and his companions then left Paphos by ship for Pamphylia, landing at the port town of Perga. There John Mark left them and returned to Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup>But Paul and Barnabas traveled inland to Antioch of Pisidia. On the Sabbath they went to the synagogue for the services. <sup>15</sup>After the usual readings from the books of Moses and the prophets, those in charge of the service sent them this message: “Brothers, if you have any word of encouragement for the people, come and give it.”*

*Acts 13:13-15 <sup>NLT</sup>*

*<sup>16</sup>So Paul stood, lifted his hand to quiet them, and started speaking. “Men of Israel,” he said, “and you God-fearing Gentiles, listen to me. <sup>17</sup>“The God of this nation of Israel chose our ancestors and made them multiply and grow strong during their stay in Egypt. Then with a powerful arm he led them out of their slavery. <sup>18</sup>He put up with them through forty years of wandering in the wilderness. <sup>19</sup>Then he destroyed seven nations in Canaan and gave their land to Israel as an inheritance.*

*Acts 13:16-19<sup>NLT</sup>*

*<sup>20</sup>All this took about 450 years.*

*“After that, God gave them judges to rule until the time of Samuel the prophet. <sup>21</sup>Then the people begged for a king, and God gave them Saul son of Kish, a man of the tribe of Benjamin, who reigned for forty years. <sup>22</sup>But God removed Saul and replaced him with David, a man about whom God said, ‘I have found David son of Jesse, a man after my own heart. He will do everything I want him to do.’*

*Acts 13:20-22 <sup>NLT</sup>*

*<sup>23</sup>“And it is one of King David’s descendants, Jesus, who is God’s promised Savior of Israel! <sup>24</sup>Before he came, John the Baptist preached that all the people of Israel needed to repent of their sins and turn to God and be baptized. <sup>25</sup>As John was finishing his ministry he asked, ‘Do you think I am the Messiah? No, I am not! But he is coming soon—and I’m not even worthy to be his slave and untie the sandals on his feet.’*

*Acts 13:23-25 <sup>NLT</sup>*

*<sup>26</sup>“Brothers—you sons of Abraham,  
and also you God-fearing Gentiles—this message  
of salvation has been sent to us! <sup>27</sup>The people in Jerusalem  
and their leaders did not recognize Jesus as the one the  
prophets had spoken about. Instead, they condemned him,  
and in doing this they fulfilled the prophets’ words  
that are read every Sabbath.*

*Acts 13:26, 27<sup>NLT</sup>*

*28 They found no legal reason to execute him,  
but they asked Pilate to have him killed anyway.  
29 “When they had done all that the prophecies said about  
him, they took him down from the cross and placed him in  
a tomb. 30 But God raised him from the dead! 31 And over a  
period of many days he appeared to those who had gone  
with him from Galilee to Jerusalem. They are now his  
witnesses to the people of Israel.*

*Acts 13:28-31 <sup>NLT</sup>*

*<sup>32</sup>“And now we are here to bring you this Good News. The promise was made to our ancestors, <sup>33</sup>and God has now fulfilled it for us, their descendants, by raising Jesus.*

*This is what the second psalm says about Jesus:*

*‘You are my Son. Today I have become your Father.’*

*<sup>34</sup>For God had promised to raise him from the dead, not leaving him to rot in the grave. He said, ‘I will give you the sacred blessings I promised to David.’*

*Acts 13:32-34 <sup>NLT</sup>*

*<sup>35</sup>Another psalm explains it more fully:*

*‘You will not allow your Holy One to rot in the grave.’*

*<sup>36</sup>This is not a reference to David, for after David had done the will of God in his own generation, he died and was buried with his ancestors, and his body decayed.*

*<sup>37</sup>No, it was a reference to someone else—someone whom God raised and whose body did not decay.*

*Acts 13:35-37<sup>NLT</sup>*

*<sup>38</sup>“Brothers, listen! We are here to proclaim that through this man Jesus there is forgiveness for your sins. <sup>39</sup>Everyone who believes in him is declared right with God—something the law of Moses could never do. <sup>40</sup>Be careful! Don’t let the prophets’ words apply to you. For they said, <sup>41</sup>‘Look, you mockers, be amazed and die! For I am doing something in your own day, something you wouldn’t believe even if someone told you about it.’”*

*Acts 13:38-41 <sup>NLT</sup>*

*<sup>42</sup>As Paul and Barnabas left the synagogue that day, the people begged them to speak about these things again the next week. <sup>43</sup>Many Jews and devout converts to Judaism followed Paul and Barnabas, and the two men urged them to continue to rely on the grace of God.*

*Acts 13:42, 43 <sup>NLT</sup>*

*You're In My Seat*

Its Easy to Sit in the Same Pew Each Week

*Acts 13:13-43*

Can You \_\_\_\_\_ in Someone Else's \_\_\_\_\_

*Acts 13:44-52*

*<sup>38</sup>“Brothers, listen! We are here to proclaim that through this man Jesus there is forgiveness for your sins. <sup>39</sup>Everyone who believes in him is declared right with God—something the law of Moses could never do. <sup>40</sup>Be careful! Don’t let the prophets’ words apply to you. For they said, <sup>41</sup>‘Look, you mockers, be amazed and die! For I am doing something in your own day, something you wouldn’t believe even if someone told you about it.’”*

*Acts 13:38-41 <sup>NLT</sup>*

Genuine Believers are People of Integrity

*<sup>6</sup>So we are lying if we say we have fellowship with God but go on living in spiritual darkness; we are not practicing the truth. <sup>7</sup>But if we are living in the light, as God is in the light, then we have fellowship with each other, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, cleanses us from all sin.*

*1 John 1:6, 7<sup>NLT</sup>*

Genuine Believers do not Continue to Sin

*<sup>3</sup>And we can be sure that we know him if we obey his commandments. <sup>4</sup>If someone claims, “I know God,” but doesn’t obey God’s commandments, that person is a liar and is not living in the truth. <sup>5</sup>But those who obey God’s word truly show how completely they love him. That is how we know we are living in him. <sup>6</sup>Those who say they live in God should live their lives as Jesus did.*

*1 John 2:3-6 <sup>NLT</sup>*

*<sup>7</sup>Dear children, don't let anyone deceive you about this: When people do what is right, it shows that they are righteous, even as Christ is righteous. <sup>8</sup>But when people keep on sinning, it shows that they belong to the devil, who has been sinning since the beginning. But the Son of God came to destroy the works of the devil. <sup>9</sup>Those who have been born into God's family do not make a practice of sinning, because God's life is in them. So they can't keep on sinning, because they are children of God. <sup>10</sup>So now we can tell who are children of God and who are children of the devil. Anyone who does not live righteously and does not love other believers does not belong to God.*

*1 John 3:7-10 <sup>NLT</sup>*

*<sup>1</sup>My dear children,*

*I am writing this to you so that you will not sin.*

*But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate who pleads our case before the Father. He is Jesus Christ, the one who is truly righteous. <sup>2</sup>He himself is the sacrifice that atones for our sins—and not only our sins but the sins of all the world.*

*1 John 2:1, 2 <sup>NLT</sup>*

## Genuine Believers Forgive All Offenses

*<sup>9</sup>If anyone claims, “I am living in the light,” but hates a Christian brother or sister, that person is still living in darkness. <sup>10</sup>Anyone who loves another brother or sister is living in the light and does not cause others to stumble. <sup>11</sup>But anyone who hates another brother or sister is still living and walking in darkness. Such a person does not know the way to go, having been blinded by the darkness.*

*1 John 2:9-11 <sup>NLT</sup>*

*<sup>18</sup>Such love has no fear,  
because perfect love expels all fear.*

*If we are afraid, it is for fear of punishment,  
and this shows that we have not  
fully experienced his perfect love.*

*<sup>19</sup>We love each other because  
he loved us first.*

*1 John 4:18, 19 <sup>NLT</sup>*



Genuine Believers have Tools not Stuff

*<sup>15</sup>Do not love this world nor the things it offers you, for when you love the world, you do not have the love of the Father in you. <sup>16</sup>For the world offers only a craving for physical pleasure, a craving for everything we see, and pride in our achievements and possessions. These are not from the Father, but are from this world. <sup>17</sup>And this world is fading away, along with everything that people crave. But anyone who does what pleases God will live forever.*

*1 John 2:15-17<sup>NLT</sup>*

Genuine Believers Recognize and Follow God

*<sup>20</sup>But you are not like that, for the Holy One has given you his Spirit, and all of you know the truth. <sup>21</sup>So I am writing to you not because you don't know the truth but because you know the difference between truth and lies. <sup>22</sup>And who is a liar? Anyone who says that Jesus is not the Christ. Anyone who denies the Father and the Son is an antichrist. <sup>23</sup>Anyone who denies the Son doesn't have the Father, either. But anyone who acknowledges the Son has the Father also.*

*1 John 2:20-23 <sup>NLT</sup>*

*<sup>1</sup>Dear friends, do not believe everyone who claims to speak by the Spirit. You must test them to see if the spirit they have comes from God. For there are many false prophets in the world. <sup>2</sup>This is how we know if they have the Spirit of God: If a person claiming to be a prophet acknowledges that Jesus Christ came in a real body, that person has the Spirit of God. <sup>3</sup>But if someone claims to be a prophet and does not acknowledge the truth about Jesus, that person is not from God. Such a person has the spirit of the Antichrist, which you heard is coming into the world and indeed is already here.*

*1 John 4:1-3 <sup>NLT</sup>*

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Its Easy to Sit in the Same Pew Each Week

*Acts 13:13-43*

Can You Love God in Someone Else's Pew

*Acts 13:44-52*

*<sup>44</sup>The following week almost the entire city turned out to hear them preach the word of the Lord. <sup>45</sup>But when some of the Jews saw the crowds, they were jealous; so they slandered Paul and argued against whatever he said.*

*<sup>46</sup>Then Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly and declared, “It was necessary that we first preach the word of God to you Jews. But since you have rejected it and judged yourselves unworthy of eternal life, we will offer it to the Gentiles.*

*Acts 13:44-46 <sup>NLT</sup>*

*47 For the Lord gave us this command when he said,  
'I have made you a light to the Gentiles, to bring  
salvation to the farthest corners of the earth.'*

*48 When the Gentiles heard this, they were very glad and  
thanked the Lord for his message; and all who were  
chosen for eternal life became believers. 49 So the Lord's  
message spread throughout that region.*

*Acts 13:47-49 NLT*

*<sup>50</sup>Then the Jews stirred up the influential religious women and the leaders of the city, and they incited a mob against Paul and Barnabas and ran them out of town. <sup>51</sup>So they shook the dust from their feet as a sign of rejection and went to the town of Iconium. <sup>52</sup>And the believers were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.*

*Acts 13:50-52 <sup>NLT</sup>*