

#### Acts 11:19-26, 13:1-3

19 Now those who were scattered because of the persecution that arose over Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia and Cyprus and Antioch, speaking the word to no one except Jews. 20 But there were some of them, men of Cyprus and Cyrene, who on coming to Antioch spoke to the Hellenists also, preaching the Lord Jesus.

21 And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number who believed turned to the Lord. 22 The report of this came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch. 23 When he came and saw the grace of God, he was glad, and he exhorted them all to remain faithful to the Lord with steadfast purpose, 24 for he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith.

And a great many people were added to the Lord. 25 So Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul, 26 and when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. For a whole year they met with the church and taught a great many people. And in Antioch the disciples were first called Christians.

13:1-3 Now there were in the church at Antioch prophets and teachers, Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen a lifelong friend of Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. 2 While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." 3 Then after fasting and praying they laid their hands on them and sent them off.

# Antioch Christian Fellowship

Acts 11:19-26, 13:1-3

The multi-ethnic church has the potential for incredible impact for Christ in our divided world.



...(a) secular city where political intrigue, cults and sensuality abounded. Cosmopolitan and metropolitan in spirit and size, it was also one of the most corrupt cities of the then known world. Ritual prostitution in the temple of Daphne characterized the sensual orientation of the morals of the city.

Lloyd Oglevie

#### Antioch, the Multi-Ethnic Church:

1/ Origins2/ Leadership3/ Impact

## Antioch, the Multi-Ethnic Church

## 1/ Origins

Acts 11:19-26





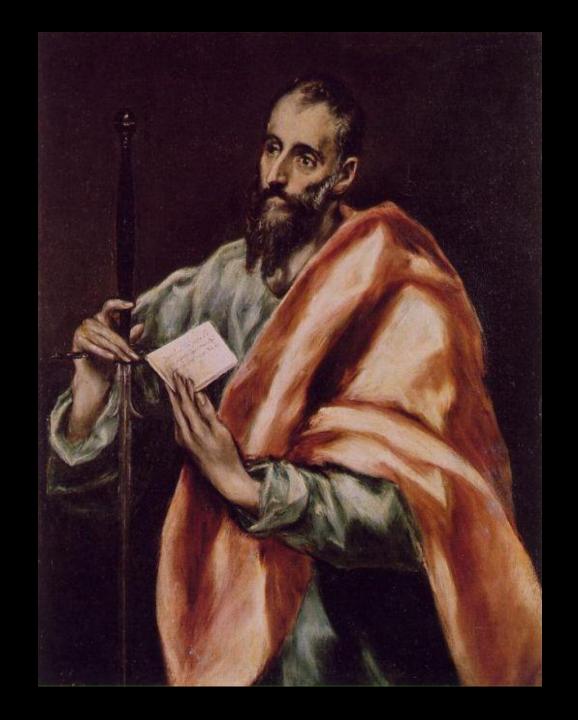
### Antioch, the Multi-Ethnic Church

#### 2/ Leadership

Acts 13:1-3

#### The 5 Antioch Leaders

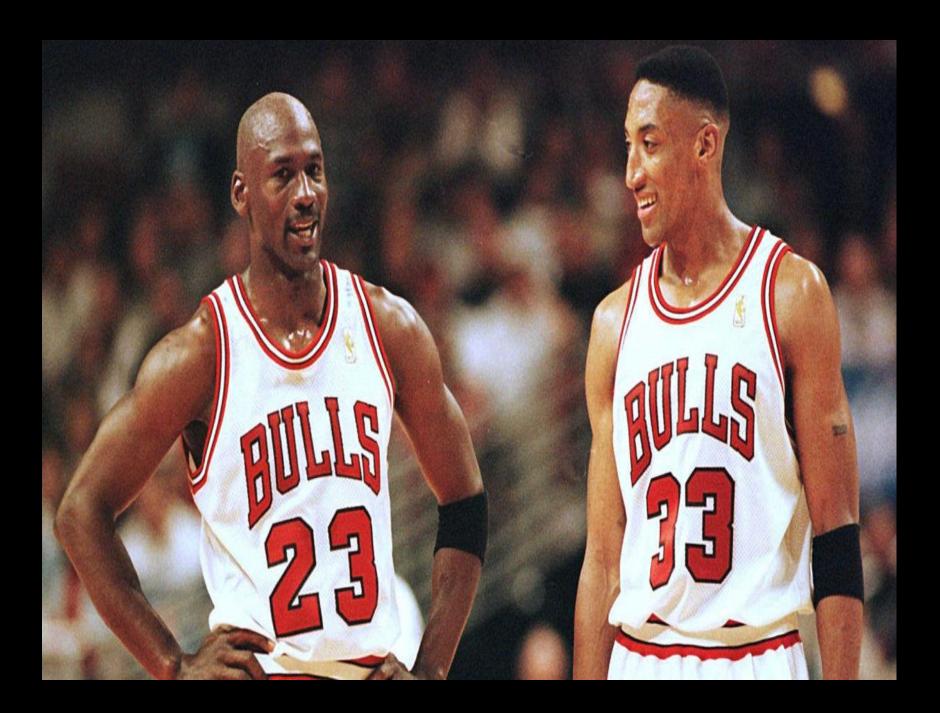
- Barnabas a Levite from Cyprus
- Simeon -who was called Niger Lk 22:26?
  Is this Simon of Cyrene?
- Lucius -of Cyrene, probably not the author though some think it was
- Manaen- friend or possible foster-brother of Herod- note Lk 8:3
- Saul converted Pharisee from Tarsus

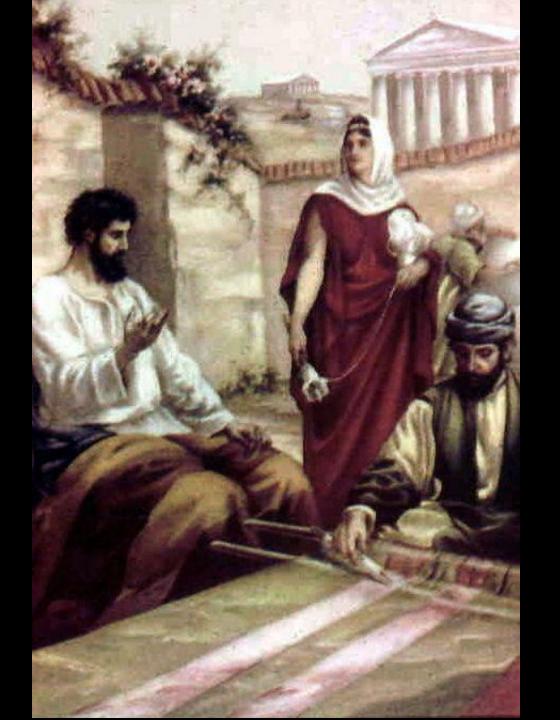


It appears that while Paul was born into a Jewish family which enjoyed citizen rights in a greek-speaking city, Aramaic and not Greek was the language in the home and perhaps also in the synagogue which they attended. Unlike many Jews resident in Anatolia, this family was strictly observant of the Jewish

way of life and maintained its links with the home country. Paul would have been given little opportunity of imbibing the culture of Tarsus during his boyhood: indeed, his parents made sure of an orthodox upbringing for him by arranging for him to spend his formative years in Jerusalem.

FF Bruce- Apostle of the Heart Set Free.

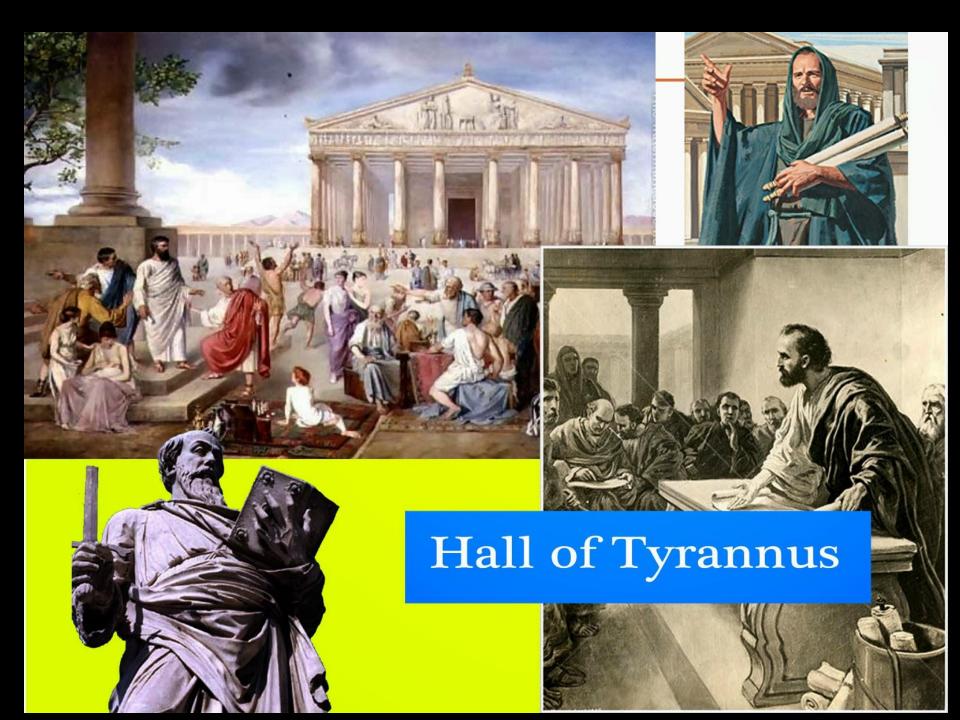




#### Antioch, the Multi-Ethnic Church:

#### 3/ Impact

Acts 13-28





"...The Jesus movement shifts from a predominantly rural movement in Galilee to an urban movement in Jerusalem to a cosmopolitan movement in Antioch."

**Craig Keener** 

#### REVELATION 7:9-12

<sup>9</sup> After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, 10 and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

11 And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, 12 saying, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."