

# Where's Your Chair?

Acts 13 26-43



And of Zion it shall be said, 'Each one was born in her,  
and the Most High himself has established her.'

The Lord will record as he writes up the peoples, 'This one also was born there.'  
Psalm 87:4-5

## **Praising:**

Ye seed of Israel's chosen race,  
ye ransomed of the fall,  
hail him who saves you by his  
grace,  
and crown him Lord of all.

## **Reading:**

Acts 13:26-43  
Are you going to listen and  
believe?

Paul's charge against  
Jerusalem's Jews, is that in  
condemning Jesus, effectively,  
they were fulfilling Scripture.  
Where they had failed to  
understanding that the prophets  
foretold Jesus, Paul is  
challenging the Jews in Pisidia, to  
take a different understanding. It  
is Christ's rising again which  
seals the fulfilment of God's  
original promise to their spiritual  
ancestor Abraham. Paul cites

verses from the Psalms and  
Isaiah, to insist that like Christ's  
rejection by the Jews and his  
death on the cross, his  
resurrection too is foreshadowed  
in Scripture. Where the law of  
Moses did not free them from sin,  
Jesus does. In provocative mood  
at the end, Paul reminds them  
with words from Habakkuk, that  
whatever he says, some of those  
listening will not accept the truth.  
And Paul and Barnabas still get  
invited back to speak again next  
Sabbath!

## **Listening:**

## **Praying:**

Lord, when witnessing to those  
we most care about

- help us always to begin with  
prayer, holding them before  
you in faith and trust
- help us never to give them  
reasons to resent us or avoid  
our company
- help us to show them in real  
and tangible ways the love  
and friendship we know in  
Christ

Father: there are some among  
my family and friends I would so  
long to bring to you. Grant me  
gentleness and grant me grace,  
grant me persistence and grant  
me patience. Amen

## **Doing:**

Tuesday, 24 May 2016