

Appointed to Eternal Life

Acts 13:48 Now when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad and glorified the word of the Lord. And as many as had been appointed to eternal life believed.

Context:

- The Spirit specifically called for Paul and Barnabas to be sent on a missionary journey (13:1 – 4)
- In Antioch of Pisidia, a group of Gentiles who attended synagogue services heard Paul's first message and begged for more (13:42)
- The next Sabbath, a large number of Gentiles attended synagogue services in order to hear the Word of God (13:44)

Appointed or ordained (τασσω):

To arrange in an orderly manner

- Matthew 28:16 The eleven disciples went...to the mountain which Jesus had *appointed*.
- Luke 1:8 While he was serving as priest before God in the *order* of his division,
- Luke 7:8 A centurion said, "I am a man *set* under authority."
- Acts 12:21 So on the *set* day Herod, arrayed in royal apparel, sat on his throne.
- Acts 15:2 They *determined* that Paul and Barnabas and certain others of them should go.
- Acts 22:10 The Lord said to me [Paul], "Arise and go into Damascus and there you will be told all things which are *appointed* for you to do."
- Acts 28:23 So when they had *appointed* him [Paul] a day, many came to him.
- Romans 13:1 "The authorities that exist are *ordained* of God.
- 1 Corinthians 14:40 Let all things be done decently and in *order*.
- 1 Corinthians 15:23 But each one in his own *order*; Christ the firstfruits, afterward those who are Christ's at His coming.
- 1 Corinthians 16:15 The household of Stephanus...has *devoted* themselves to the ministry.
- Colossians 2:5 Although I am absent in the flesh, yet I am with you in spirit, rejoicing to see your good *order*
- Hebrews 5:6, 7:11 According to the *order* of Melchizedek.

Conclusions:

- The emphasis of the word is orderliness and planning
- Therefore, [this event] was set up in an orderly manner by God.
- Paul and Barnabas were sent specifically by God.
- God knows the hearts of all people.
- These Gentiles already had demonstrated a desire to know about Jehovah.
- God arranged the meeting of good hearts with the good news.