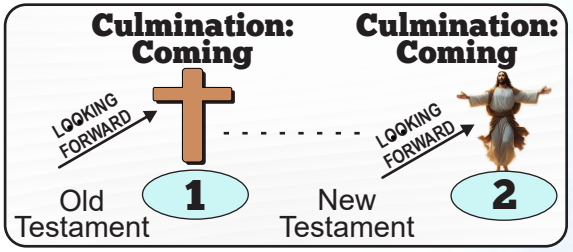
PAUL PREACHES JESUS — ACTS 13:14-41

1 JESUS: THE CULMINATION OF HISTORY

Identity v.14-23

- Jesus is presented as the goal and climax of history. Christ's first and second coming are two parts of history's Climax.
- If Jesus is to be presented, He must be presented by somebody they respect. Who do they respect above all? God. So this is Jesus as presented by God.
- It would not do any good for Paul to go into town and say, "I want to present Jesus."
- One of the greatest questions that face all men is "Where is history going?" Is life and history going somewhere? Do we just live to die?
- Every Jew in that Synagogue knew where history was going. To every Jew, history is going toward the time when Messiah would come. Messiah would reintroduce to man full fellowship with God that will give full glory to God.



- All the history of this world is simply God endeavoring to bring men back into fellowship with Himself.
- If you do not believe in God, and do not believe in Jesus as Messiah, then, for you, history is not going anywhere.
- Jesus is the culmination of history. When He came and died on the cross, He provided that which enables a man to enter fellowship with God and ultimately giving Him the glory He deserves.
- Paul goes through Israel's history leading it up to and culminates the history by naming Jesus (**v.23**).
- There could be no point to history if Jesus had not come.
  - Jesus is the only one that can right the wrongs and reverse the injustices.
  - Jesus is the only one that can remove the curse that separates men from God.
  - Jesus is the only one who can give meaning to life individually and life collectively, which is history.
- God has been active in history and has designed a plan to redeem men, and the redeemer is Christ. The desires of people do not alter the plan of God's history. Man is free to disobey and yet it does not alter God's history.
- Christ is the apex of history. They looked forward to the Christ as the crowning event of history. We look back to Christ as the crowning event of history and we look up with one eye on the future because he's coming again.

1 JESUS: THE CULMINATION OF HISTORY — *Identity* — v.14-23

2 JESUS: THE FULFILLMENT OF PROPHECY — *Hope* — v.23-37

3 JESUS: THE JUSTIFIER OF SINNERS — *Sin* — v.38-41