

THE ACTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

CHAPTER 17:1-15

MEDIA REFERENCE NUMBER SM 202

TITLE:

"WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN YOU SHARE JESUS !"

BEING READY TO SHARE TO LORD

THEME:

Acts 1:8

*"But you shall receive **power** when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and "you shall be witnesses to Me" in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."*

I Love This Text Before Us - I Love To Argue

Paul Received Tremendous Opposition
When Sharing Jesus Christ

Was The Mission A Success Paul, Jack?

This is Paul's First Visit,

1 Thessalonians 1:5

For our gospel did not come to you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Spirit and in much assurance, as you know what kind of men we were among you for your sake. :6 And you became followers of us and of the Lord, having received the word **in much affliction**, with joy of the Holy Spirit.

1 Thessalonians 2:1

For you yourselves know, brethren, that our coming to you was not in vain. :2 But even after we had **already suffered were spitefully treated** at Philippi, as you know, we were bold in our God to speak to you the gospel of God **in much conflict**.

What Caused All this Opposition ?

#1 The Gospel Message Generates a Response

Matthew 12:30

"He who is not with Me is against Me, and he who does not gather with Me scatters abroad."

What Caused All this Opposition ?

#2 Paul's Method of Evangelism

Paul's methods provoked them because of what he was saying

Paul Was Not The Most Sought After Guest Speaker

The instruction of Acts Chapter 17..

What Every Christian can Expect

1.) Paul's Message To His Brothers vv. 1-3

Paul's Passion !

Romans 9:1-4a

I tell the truth in Christ, I am not lying, my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Spirit, 9:2 that I have great sorrow and continual grief in my heart. :3 For I could wish that I myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my countrymen according to the flesh, 9:4 who are Israelis...

A.) IT WAS PAUL'S LIFE

- * Custom GRK ethos (eth'-os) ethics
a habit or way of being it was Paul's ethics <<<<<<<<<<

B.) HE CHALLENGED THEM

- * Reasoned GRK 1256 dialegomai (dee-al-eg'-om-ahee)
to argue thoroughly, (ENG. to dialogue) by questions and answers to dispute

***** A Radical Word *****

Acts 19:8

And he went into the synagogue, and spake boldly for the space of three months, **reasoning** and **persuading** the things concerning the kingdom of God.

Acts 18:4

And he **reasoned** in the synagogue every Sabbath, and **persuaded** both Jews and Greeks.

Acts 17:17

So he reasoned **#1 in the synagogue** with the Jews and the God-fearing Greeks, as well as **#2 in the marketplace** day by day with those who happened to be there. (NIV)

Can You Defend Your Faith and Beliefs? can you prove your point?

Paul's Motive for Arguing
was to get them to see the light

God Has Been *Arguing with some of you all your life.....*

Isaiah 1:18

"Come now, let us **reason together**, (give arguments, convince, and win over)" says the LORD, -
God's argument is ("Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall be as wool.

C.) HIS BOLDNESS WAS EMPOWERED BY THE MESSAGE

- * **Explaining** **GRK 1272 dianoigo (dee-an-oy'-go)**
to open thoroughly, to expound upon
verbal inspiration

- * **Demonstrating** **GRK 3908 paratithemi (par-at-ith'-ay-mee)**
to place or lay down alongside the head,
to present the food, or to set before someone
(not by force)

1 Peter 3:15-16

But set apart Christ as Lord in your hearts and always be ready, prepared and on the look out to give a defense by presenting a strong logical case to everyone who will ask of you 'to give a reason for the hope that is in you' do this with gentleness and respect, :16 having a good conscience, that when they defame you as evildoers, those who revile your good conduct in Christ may be shamed.

DECISIONS WILL BE MADE

yes - no - yes

A. SOULS WILL BE SAVED

- * **persuaded** GRK 3982 **peitho** (pi'-tho)
to convince by giving arguments, to come to obey,
to win over the mind

Brought to a point of Decision

B. PEOPLE WILL BE DIVIDED

NOT persuaded but actually HARDENED AGAINST

- * **becoming envious** GRK 2206 **zeloo** (dzay-lo'-o)
to covet, to desire strongly,
to burn with heat

Isaiah 55:11

So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.

John 5:39

"You **search** the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me.

What you're Looking For
is Standing in front of You !!!

Psalm 40:7 & Heb 10:7

Then I said, "Behold, I come; in the scroll of the book it is written of me.

Wrong !

They were Turning the World Right side up

The Little boy who was *learning the names of the Bible began to recite the sequence to his mother.... Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Acts.... 1,2,3, John Jude and REVOLUTIONS*

"The Message"

Make No Mistake About It "They Preached Jesus Christ;

Jesus Messes People Up !

- * **Another King** **GRK 2087 heteros (het'-er-os)**
another of a different kind or type
an altogether different leadership

A King Un-like Caesar

John 18:36

Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world.

3.) The Joy of Serving God's Word vv. 10-15

Enter the Synagogue Take #2

Paul being led again to enter the synagogue

Verse 11 is the exact opposite *type of response as those in Thessalonica..... They were open-minded enough to consider the statements of Paul and to Study the Word !*

- * **#1 Received** **GRK 1209 dechomai (dekh'-om-ahee);**
to take it in or to the heart, to accept.
- * **#2 Readiness** **GRK 4288 prothumia**
to have a predisposition, a forwardness or
willingness of mind.

* #3 Searched GRK 350 anakrino (an-ak-ree'-no)
to scrutinize, to investigate, interrogate,
to question and judge,

1 John 4:1

Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world.

We Follow Christ because He is The Christ
We are all Followers - Not Leaders

1 John 4:6

We are of God. He who knows God hears us; he who is not of God does not hear us..... By this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

"Therefore or Because" of, or *on account of them being scriptural about all things, they naturally came to faith in Jesus...*

The Holy Spirit Uses The WORD OF GOD

John 15:26

"When the Counselor comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father, he will testify about me.

They made a "Strong Belief" in Christ
based upon the "Word"

Prominate here meaning The **wealthy, powerful...** and "Educated"

It is an Intelligent response...
to receive Jesus Christ

Paul Must be Encouraged;

1 Corinthians 3:5-7

Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers through whom you believed, as the Lord gave to each one? :6 I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase. :7 So then neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters, but God who gives the increase.

They became missionaries too... *Powered by Jealousy and Envy*

Matthew 23:15

"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you travel land and sea to win one proselyte, and when he is won, you make him twice as much a son of hell as yourselves."

The Depth of their Heart Change - so quickly

They brought him all the way to Athens, Greece...

A Dangerous and Long Journey

David Livingstone was asked

"Where are you prepared to go?"

Livingstone replied "Anywhere, as long as it's forward"

How are you resisting Him?

by trusting in ourselves

by putting God off in our daily lives

by boxing Him into our comfort zone

When are you resisting Him

Always, in every situation in Lack of Thanks

Why are you resisting Him

Pride

WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN YOU SHARE JESUS

Resisting 1:1-9~ Receiving 1:10-15~ Ridiculing 1:16-34

Stephen/Holy Spirit

Acts 7:

"...ye do always resist the Holy Ghost: as your fathers did, so do ye."

Jesus Said

Matthew 13:57

"A prophet is not without honor except in his own country and in his own house."

Jesus Again Said

Matthew 10:34

"Do not think that I came to bring peace on earth. I did not come to bring peace but a sword. :35 "For I have come to `set a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law'; :36 "and `a man's enemies will be those of his own household.'

What Hinders Our Witness

1 A Lack of Knowledge:

Hosea 4:6

My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge. -
Because you have rejected knowledge,

2 A Lack Holiness

Psalm 51:12-13

Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, and uphold me by Your generous Spirit. :13 Then I will teach transgressors Your ways, and sinners shall be converted to You.

Psalm 26:6

I will wash my hands in innocence; so I will go about Your altar, O LORD, :7 That I may proclaim with the voice of thanksgiving, and tell of all Your wondrous works.

3 A Lack of Power

Acts 1:8

"But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

Luke 11:11-13

"If a son asks for bread from any father among you, will he give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent instead of a fish? :12 "Or if he asks for an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? :13 "If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!"