

Acts 17

Questions

1. Where did Paul and Silas travel after leaving Philippi (17:1)?
2. Where did Paul preach in this city and what (or who) was the subject of his preaching (17:1-3)?
3. What was the two-fold response to Paul's preaching (17:4-5)?
4. What happened to a man named Jason and some of the brethren (17:6-9)?
5. Where did Paul and Silas travel after leaving Thessalonica and what did they do there (17:10)?
6. What was the two-fold response to their preaching in this city (17:11-13)?
7. Where did Paul, Silas, and Timothy go after the events in Beroea (17:14-15)?
8. What did Paul feel when he came to Athens and what did he do there (17:16-17)?
9. What did the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers say about Paul's preaching and what did they want to know from him (17:18-21)?
10. How did Paul describe the Athenians (17:22-23)?

11. What points did Paul make about God in his sermon that addressed the Athenians' false concepts of the one, true God (17:24-29)?

12. What did Paul preach about repentance and the coming judgment (17:30-31)?

13. What was the three-fold response to Paul's preaching in the Areopagus (17:32-34)?

Digging Deeper

1. Where are the following places located: Amphipolis, Apollonia, Thessalonica, Berea, and Athens (17:1, 10, 16)?

2. Who was the Roman Caesar at this time (17:7)?

3. Where in the book of 1 Thessalonians does Paul make reference to the events of Thessalonica, Berea and Athens (17:1-15)?

4. Who were the Epicureans and Stoics and what was the Areopagus or Mars Hill (17:18-19, 22)?

5. What possible poets did Paul quote in Acts 17:28?

6. Why would some of the audience mock the resurrection? What did the Epicureans and Stoics believe about the after-life (17:32)?

Applications for Today

1. In religious discussions, reason from the scriptures to make your point, not from your opinions (17:2-3, 17; Jn. 5:39).
2. Be ready for different responses to your preaching and teaching: positive, negative, and indifferent (17:4-9, 12-13, 32-34; Lk. 8:4-15).
3. Jealousy is a powerful emotion that can cause people to do terrible things (17:5; Mt. 27:18; Acts 7:9).
4. Let us never be satisfied with mediocrity or the status quo, but “turn the world upside down” with the truth of God’s word (17:6; 1 K. 18:17-18).
5. Jesus is indeed a “king”, but not an earthly king (17:7; Jn. 18:36-37).
6. We need to be like the Bereans who kept open minds, open scriptures, and open schedules (17:11; Psa. 119:97, 148).
7. Like Paul, we should be provoked within when we see people worshipping in ignorance and then do what we can to get them out of it (17:16-18; Mk. 3:5).
8. Some people are only interested in “new” teachings, but not the truth (17:18-21; 1 Cor. 1:22-23).
9. Many religious people today still worship in ignorance (17:22-23; Jn. 4:22).
10. God can be known and he wants us to seek him and serve him (17:24-29; Rom. 1:20).
11. We need to repent and prepare for the coming judgment day (17:30-31; 2 Pet. 3:9).
12. Some people mock the truth, others reserve judgment about the truth, while others will obey the truth (17:32-34). What will you do with the truth (Prov. 23:23)?