

MEN WHO TURNED THE WORLD UPSIDE DOWN

(Acts 17:1-15)

- I. THE BIRTH OF THE CHURCH IN JERUSALEM (chapters 1-2)
- II. THE GROWTH OF THE CHURCH IN JERUSALEM (chapters 3-7)
- III. THE CHURCH'S WITNESS FOR CHRIST IN JUDEA, SAMARIA, AND SYRIA (chapters 8-12)
- IV. THE CHURCH'S WITNESS TO THE REST OF THE WORLD (chapters 13-28)

A. The Founding of the Church in Thessalonica (17:1-9)

1. From Philippi, the _____ moved southwest about _____ miles along the Grecian coast, bypassing Amphipolis and Apollonia until they arrived at the _____ city of Thessalonica. (v. 1)

2. Following his usual pattern, Paul preached at the local synagogue for _____ consecutive weeks, _____ (Gr. *diategomai*) "with them from the Scriptures." (v. 2)

3. Paul was also "_____" (Gr. *dianoigon*), and "_____" (Gr. *paratithemenos*) to his listeners that Jesus was the Messiah, and that He had to suffer and rise from the dead. (v. 3)

4. The message was wonderfully effective! Some of the _____ believed, and a large number of _____ trusted Christ, as well as many prominent _____. (v. 4)

5. Not everybody in the city was happy with the evangelistic results; the unbelieving Jews _____ Paul's _____ and were greatly _____ to see the Gentiles and the influential women leaving the synagogue. (v. 5a)

6. These Jews found evil men in the marketplace who would be willing to _____ an uproar; the _____ gathered outside "the house of Jason" where they hoped to find Paul. (v. 5b)

7. The angry crowd _____ Jason out of the house and brought him to the rulers; they claimed that these men “*who have _____ the world upside down*” have promoted their false doctrine that Jesus is _____. (vv. 6-9)

B. The Founding of the Church in Berea (17:10-15)

1. The newly saved believers in Thessalonica sent Paul and Silas away under the cover of darkness; the missionaries were _____; they immediately began to _____ in the Berean synagogue. (v. 10)
2. The Bereans were more open-minded people, they _____ eagerly, but _____ to what Paul preached and then they _____ compared his teachings with the Hebrew Scriptures. (v. 11)
3. In Berea many of the Jews _____ and (much like Thessalonica) large numbers of Greeks and upper-class women also _____ Christ. (v. 12)
4. Satan brought the unbelieving, envious Jews from Thessalonica to _____ up _____ in Berea; while Silas and Timothy remained there, the Christians had Paul _____ for his own safety. (vv. 13-14)
5. Whether Paul went to Athens by boat or by land is _____ known; in either case some believers _____ Paul to guarantee his safe arrival; upon arrival he told his new friends to tell Silas and Timothy to _____ in Athens as soon as possible. (v. 15)

* What can you personally apply from this passage?