



## Upside Down or Right Side Up?

Acts 17:1-9

### I. Establish a Habit of Being in Strategic Places (vv. 1-2a)

- A. The \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 1a) [Acts 16:40; 1 Cor. 9:16]
- B. The \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 1b) [Acts 20:4; Phil. 4:16; 1 Thes. 1:1]
- C. The \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 2a) [Rom. 9:1-3; 10:1: 13:6, 45; 17:5, 10]

### Three Reasons Why Paul May Have Been in Thessalonica for More than 3 Weeks

1. The Philippian church sent \_\_\_\_\_ to Paul at least twice during this visit (Phil. 4:15-16)
2. Paul supported himself by \_\_\_\_\_ labor (1 Thes. 2:9; 3:7-10)
3. Most of the converts at Thessalonica were \_\_\_\_\_ steeped in idolatry (1 Thes. 1:9)

### II. Expound the Scriptures to People in Your Life (vv. 2b-3)

- A. Paul was \_\_\_\_\_ from the Bible (v. 2b)  
[Acts 18:4, 19; 19:8-9; 2 Tim. 3:16-17]
- B. Paul was \_\_\_\_\_ the Scriptures (v. 3a) [Lk. 24:45]
- C. Paul was \_\_\_\_\_ the crucifixion and resurrection (v. 3b)  
[Isa. 53:5-6; Psa. 16:10; 1 Cor. 15:3-4]
- D. Paul was \_\_\_\_\_ Christ (v. 3c)  
[Isa. 7:14; Mic. 5:2; Matt. 2:23; Jn. 1:29; 4:10; Mk. 10:47; Heb. 6:20;  
Matt. 21:42; Isa. 53:5, 7; Matt. 12:40; 1 Cor. 15:20; Jn. 6:35; 8:12; 10:7;  
11:25; 10:11; 14:6; 15:1; Rev. 22:13]

### III. Expect Various Responses From Your Listeners (vv. 4-9)

- A. Some were \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 4)  
[1 Thes. 1:4-5, 8; Rom. 11:13; Gal. 3:28; 2 Tim. 2:2]
- B. Some began \_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 5-9)
1. Their tactics (v. 5)
- a) Formed a \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 5a) [Acts 13:45; 14:19;  
19:28-29; Jn. 18:3]
- b) Set the city in an \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 5b)  
[Acts 17:6; 19:28-29; Mk. 14:55-56]
- c) Attacked the house of \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 5c) [Prov. 24:15-16]
2. Their accusations (vv. 6-7)
- a) These men have turned the world \_\_\_\_\_ down (v. 6)  
[Lk. 9:23-25; 1 Pet. 4:12]
- b) These men are saying that there is \_\_\_\_\_ king (v. 7)  
[Jn. 19:12]
3. The results (vv. 8-9)
- a) The city was \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 8) [Jn. 19:15]
- b) The plan for \_\_\_\_\_ was set (v. 9)  
[1 Thes. 2:17-18; 1:7-8]

### TAKE HOME

- Determination is at the heart of any great **achievement** for God
- Rejection is to be expected when you **proclaim** the gospel
- Turning the world right side up is not your work alone, but **God's** work through you

## STUDY QUESTIONS

James 1:22 says, *“But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.”* These questions are designed to help you apply today’s message to your life. We encourage you to thoughtfully answer these questions and discuss your answers with others. For more information about joining a small group that uses these questions as the basis for discussion, prayer, and accountability, please visit our website at [placiritachurch.com](http://placiritachurch.com).

1. Read Acts 17:1-2a. What do we learn about this journey? Where was it taking them? What was Paul’s strategy? (Rom. 9:1-3; 10:1: 13:6, 45; 17:5, 10)

2. What are your thoughts about if Paul was in Thessalonica for three weeks or a little longer? (Phil. 4:15-15; 1 Thes. 2:9; 3:7-10; 1 Thes. 1:9)

3. Read Acts 17:2b. What is meant by Paul reasoning from the Bible? Should we be doing this? How? (Acts 18:4, 19; 19:8-9; 2 Tim. 3:16-17)

4. Read Acts 17:3. What can we learn from Paul’s explaining from the Bible, proving the crucifixion and resurrection, and proclaiming that Jesus is the Christ? (Isa. 53:5-6; Psa. 16:10; 1 Cor. 15:3-4)

5. Read Acts 17:4. Why were some of the Jews persuaded? Who else was persuaded? Why does this matter? How can we have a part in this continuing? (1 Thes. 1:4-5, 8; Rom. 11:13; Gal. 3:28; 2 Tim. 2:2)

6. Read Acts 17:5. What were the Jews’ tactics to get rid of Paul? Did they work? Why or why not? (Acts 13:45; 14:19; 19:28-29; Jn. 18:3; Acts 17:6; 19:28-29; Mk. 14:55-56)

7. Read Acts 17:6-7. What accusations were being made? Where these accusations true? What can we learn from this? (Lk. 9:23-25; 1 Pet. 4:12; Jn. 19:12)

8. Read Acts 17:8-9. What were the results? What happens next? What are we to think about this ending? (Jn. 19:15; 1 Thes. 2:17-18; 1:7-8)

9. Read that take home points. Which one challenges you or encourages you the most? Why? How will you live your life differently this week based on what you have learned from this passage?

*“...the measure of our triumph in work for God is always the measure of our travail. No propagative work is done save at a cost; and every genuine triumph of the Cross brings after it the travail of some new affliction, and of some new sorrow. So we share the travail that makes the Kingdom come.”*

- G. Campbell Morgan, *The Acts of the Apostles*