

Three Cities, one Gospel

Part 2: Berea

Acts 17: 10-15

Keywords and Phrases*

Believed (v. 12)

Brothers (vv. 10, 14)

Jewish synagogue (v. 10)

More noble (v. 11)

Received the word (v. 11)

Scriptures (v. 11)

Word of God (v. 13)

*Keywords may vary depending on Bible translation

Critical Thinking Questions

1. What is the significance of Luke recording that the brothers in Thessalonica sent Paul and Silas away by night? What does this demonstrate about spreading the Gospel (see Matthew 7:6; Mark 6:4-6; Luke 9:5)?
2. What is the most likely reason Paul prioritizes preaching the Gospel in synagogues whenever he visits a city with one (see Acts 13:14; 14:1; 17:1; Romans 1:16; Romans 10:1)?
3. Considering the passage's context, what does Luke mean when he describes the Jews in Berea as being more noble than those in Thessalonica? (Acts 17:11)?
4. What prompted the Jews from Thessalonica to journey to Berea and stir up problems (compare Acts 13:45; 17:5)?

“Now these Jews were more noble than those in Thessalonica; they received the word with all eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see if these things were so.”

(Acts 17:11 ESV)

Analyzing the Scripture

The brothers in Thessalonica

- immediately sent Paul and Silas away by night (v. 10).

Paul and Silas

- went to the Jewish synagogue (v. 10).

The Jews in Berea

- were more noble than the Jews in Thessalonica (v. 11).

- received the word with all eagerness (v. 11).

- examined the Scriptures daily to see if Paul was correct (v. 11).

- many of them believed (v. 12).

Greek women of high standing

- believed (v. 12).

Greek men

- believed (v. 12).

Jews from Thessalonica

- traveled to Berea after learning Paul was there preaching (v. 13).

- agitated and stirred up the crowds (v. 13).

The brothers in Berea

- immediately sent Paul away to Athens (vv. 14-15).

Silas and Timothy

- departed from Berea to Athens after receiving word from Paul (v. 15).

Reflection Question

What can you do this week to ensure that you follow the example of the noble Bereans and not the Jews from Thessalonica?