Acts #31 July 19, 2023

PAUL'S SECOND MISSIONARY JOURNEY: THE BIRTH OF THE THESSALONIAN & BEREAN CHURCHES (Acts 17:1-15)

- I. THE CHURCH'S WITNESS FOR CHRIST IN JERUSALEM (1–7)
- II. THE CHURCH'S WITNESS FOR CHRIST IN JUDEA, SAMARIA, & SYRIA (8–12)

III. THE CHURCH'S WITNESS FOR CHRIST TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH (13–28)

- A. The FIRST MISSIONARY JOURNEY of Paul & Barnabas (13–14)
- **B. The FIRST CHURCH COUNCIL in Jerusalem (15)**

C. The SECOND MISSIONARY JOURNEY of Paul (15:36–18:22)

- 1. From Antioch to Philippi (15:36–16:9)
- 2. The Birth of the Church at Philippi (16:10-40)
- 3. The Birth of the Church at Thessalonica (17:1-10)

a. Paul's Gospel to the Thessalonians (17:1-3)

- 1) Paul and his missionary team traveled from Philippi to the _____ city of Thessalonica, which was the _____ of the region of Macedonia and very loyal to _____ (v. 1).
- 2) Though Paul reasoned with the Jews in the synagogue for ______ (v. 2), he was probably in Thessalonica for about ______.

Date	Passage	City/Event
Aug-Oct 50	Acts 16:12-40	Philippi
Nov 50–Jan 51	Acts 17:1-10a	Thessalonica
Feb 51	Acts 17:10b-15	Berea
Feb-Mar 51	Acts 17:16-34	Athens
Mar 51	Acts 18:1-4	Paul Arrives in Corinth
Apr-May 51	Acts 18:5	Silas, Timothy to Corinth
Early summer 51	1 Thessalonians	1 Thessalonians Written
Summer 51	2 Thessalonians	2 Thessalonians Written
Sept 52	Acts 18:11, 18	Paul Departs from Corinth

3) Paul's method of evangelism included using the ______ as the basis to ______, _____, and ______ that Jesus is the Christ. (vv. 2-3)

4) Paul's message focused on the _____ and ____ of Jesus Christ as the _____. (v. 3)

- What does "the Christ" mean?
- What two acts of Jesus Christ did Paul emphasize in his evangelism?
- What does all of this imply about the content of the gospel for salvation?

b. The Thessalonians' Response to the Gospel (17:4-10a)

1) A ______ of God-fearing Gentiles in Thessalonica responded positively and were ______ by the gospel of Jesus as "the Christ." (v. 4)

• How does 2 Thessalonians 1:8-10 clarify the response to the gospel?

2) Negatively, those Jews who were ______ formed a mob and violently attacked the believers, ______ them of upsetting ______ and of ______ against the emperor. (vv. 5-10)

- Who else was similarly accused and what can we learn from this?
- What practical lessons related to this event can we learn from 1-2 Thessalonians?

4. The Birth of the Church at Berea (17:10b-15)

a. Ready Reception by the Believing Bereans (17:10b-12)

1) The church at Berea began with _____ Jews and God-fearing Gentiles who ______ the word/gospel Paul preached and ______ the Scriptures to confirm its truthfulness. (vv. 10b-11)

• What does this passage imply about authority in the church?

2) At Berea, _____ Jews and God-fearing Gentiles _____ the gospel. (v. 12)

b. More Opposition from Unbelievers (17:13-15)

1) Because of the ______ of _____, the believers of Berea sent Paul away to the sea for his own safety. (vv. 13-14a)

2) The missionary team temporarily ______ for safety's sake, with Paul going to ______ alone and joined later by Silas and Timothy. (vv. 14b-15)

• What can we as a church learn from all this?