

### Acts 17:1-8

17 When Paul and his companions had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a Jewish synagogue. As was his custom, Paul went into the synagogue, and on three Sabbath days he reasoned with them from the Scriptures, explaining and proving that the Messiah had to suffer and rise from the dead. "This Jesus I am proclaiming to you is the Messiah," he said. Some of the Jews were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, as did a large number of God-fearing Greeks and quite a few prominent women. Vs. 5 But other Jews were jealous; so, they rounded up some bad characters from the marketplace, formed a mob and started a riot in the city. They rushed to Jason's house in search of Paul and Silas in order to bring them out to the crowd. But when they did not find them, they dragged Jason and some other believers before the city officials, shouting: "These men who have caused trouble all over the world have now come here, and Jason has welcomed them into his house. They are all defying Caesar's decrees, saying that there is another king, one called Jesus." When they heard this, the crowd and the city officials were thrown into turmoil. Then they made Jason and the others post bond and let them go.

#### The Context:

- **Vs. 1** Paul and his companions are traveling through ancient yet changing metropolitan areas.
- **Vs. 2** As was his custom, Paul went into the synagogue, and on three Sabbath days he reasoned with them from the Scriptures
- **Vs. 3** Some of the Jews were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, as did a large number of God-fearing Greeks and quite a few prominent women.
- **Vs. 5** But other Jews were jealous; so they rounded up some bad characters from the marketplace, formed a mob and started a riot in the city.

"A Christianity that does not radically define culture is a Christianity neutered of its purpose, its power and its passion"

#### Sermon Foci-

1. Christianity leads with the salvific message of Christ as Savior.
2. Christianity liberates those under the yoke of slavery.

#### 1. Christianity leads with the salvific message of Christ as Savior.

1. **GPS:** God, Problem, Salvation/Solution
2. We live in a world that claims to not need a savior from problems but often exalts the problem as the savior.

#### 2. Christianity liberates those under the yoke of slavery.

**New Testament Christianity is the most pro-woman ideology in human history.**

1. **Vs. 4** Some of the Jews were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, as did a large number of God-fearing Greeks and **quite a few prominent women.**
2. **Vs. 12** As a result, many of them believed, as did also a number of prominent **Greek women** and many Greek men.

#### Practical Takeaways:

1. Make it your custom to lead with the gospel, making it primary to every aspect of your life.
2. Set captives free.

#### Small Group Questions:

1. Paul made it "his custom" to share the gospel weekly if not every day. Do you have an evangelistic custom and lifestyle?
2. Pastor Adam stated, "A Christianity that does not radically define culture is a Christianity neutered of its purpose, its power, and its passion." Do you agree or disagree with this and why?
3. The sermon stated that "Christianity liberates people from slavery". Is there a way that you are liberating people from slavery?
4. How do you share salvation with those who don't believe that they need a Savior?
5. Do you agree with the sermon premise that Christianity is the most pro woman religion/ideology in human history?