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# A Tale Of Three Cities

Acts 17

## THESSALONICA

### *Some Days The Bad Guys Win*

Acts 17:1-10

- Don't be surprised if the \_\_\_\_\_ brings the \_\_\_\_\_ – temporarily.  
Genesis 4/ Acts 14:21-22/ 1 Peter 4:12-14/ Hebrews 11:32-40/ 1 Corinthians 16:8-9
- The purpose of predictive prophecy is \_\_\_\_\_, not \_\_\_\_\_.  
1 Peter 1:10-12/ 1 Timothy 1:3-7/ Revelation 1:3

## BEREA

### *Don't Believe Everything You Hear – Even in Church!*

Acts 17:10-14

- Trust but \_\_\_\_\_ (with scripture).
- Beware of putting too much trust in . . .  
Acts 17:11/ Galatians 1:8-9/ Proverbs 14:12 & 16:25 and 1 Corinthians 4:4/ 2 Thessalonians 2:9-12
  - 1) A \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 2) Your \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 3) Miraculous \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

## ATHENS

### *Some Things Never Change*

Acts 17:15-32

- Then and now:  
They considered themselves very \_\_\_\_\_.  
They loved the \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.  
Tolerance was more important than \_\_\_\_\_.
- Few people are ever \_\_\_\_\_ into the kingdom.  
Acts 18:1-11/ 1 Corinthians 2:1-7/ 1 Peter 3:15-16/ 2 Timothy 2:24-26
- We don't need to be a great orator or have \_\_\_\_\_.  
Simply \_\_\_\_\_ and doors will open.

## Home Fellowship Questions

This past weekend we looked at Acts 17 and we heard how the “Bad Guys Won” in the city of Thessalonica ...temporarily. Fortunately, tough times don't mean God's Spirit isn't growing and changing people's lives. This week we're going to take a look at the letter Paul wrote to the Thessalonians and see how the young church not only survived, but also thrived in the midst of tough times.

1. Let's start by reading 1 Thessalonians 1. What surprising good news do we hear regarding how God is working in the Thessalonian church in spite of the persecution they were encountering?

How does what happened in Thessalonica help you endure when God seems to not be winning?

2. Paul wanted to encourage the Thessalonians to not only survive, but also thrive in the midst of challenging times. What instructions does Paul give them in 1 Thessalonians 4:1-12?

Are any of these instructions important for you to consider when it comes to living out your faith as life happens?

3. What does Paul give us as our ultimate hope through tough times in 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11? Does this help you, cause you to be more alert, affirm your hope during tough times or other?

4. Read 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18. As we enter the Thanksgiving season, take some time to thank God for who He is and all that you are thankful for.