

THE IRREPRESSIBLE GOSPEL

A dramatic landscape photograph featuring a sunburst effect over a mountain range. A winding road is visible in the lower-left foreground, and the overall scene is bathed in the warm, golden light of a low sun, creating a sense of hope and journey.

**The Trip
That Changed
the World**

**Our thoughts and prayers
are with the Hultin family
this morning.**



**Life is FILLED
with storms.**



Acts 17:1-15

Acts 17:1-15

¹ When Paul and his companions had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a Jewish synagogue. ² As was his custom, Paul went into the synagogue, and on three Sabbath days he reasoned with them from the Scriptures, ³ 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.

Acts 17:1-15

- 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.
- 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.

Acts 17:1-15

6 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, 7 and Jason has welcomed them into his house. They are all defying Caesar's decrees, saying that there is another king, one called Jesus."

Acts 17:1-15

8 When they heard this, the crowd and the city officials were thrown into turmoil. 9 Then they made Jason and the others post bond and let them go.

10 As soon as it was night, the believers sent Paul and Silas away to Berea. On arriving there, they went to the Jewish synagogue.

Acts 17:1-15

¹¹ Now the Berean Jews were of more noble character than those in Thessalonica, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true. ¹² As a result, many of them believed, as did also a number of prominent Greek women and many Greek men.

Acts 17:1-15

¹³ But when the Jews in Thessalonica learned that Paul was preaching the word of God at Berea, some of them went there too, agitating the crowds and stirring them up. ¹⁴ The believers immediately sent Paul to the coast, but Silas and Timothy stayed at Berea. ¹⁵ Those who escorted Paul brought him to Athens and then left with instructions for Silas and Timothy to join him as soon as possible.

This is the 6th time that
Paul is expelled from a city.

~ *Stripped*

~ *Threatened*

~ *Stoned*

~ *Beaten*

~ *Flogged*

~ *Imprisoned*

Acts 9:15-16

But the Lord said to Ananias, "Go! This man is my chosen instrument to proclaim my name to the Gentiles and their kings and to the people of Israel. I will show him how much he must suffer for my name."

**Your life will not be easy.
But it will be fruitful beyond
your wildest dreams.**

**The “health & wealth gospel”
(prosperity theology) is a lie
directly from the mind and
mouth of Satan.**

Matthew 16:24-26

Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross, and follow me. If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake, you will save it. And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul."

God NEVER promises us that we won't suffer. He never says that we won't experience pain and even unbearable loss. What He DOES say is that He is the King of Kings. And that He will BE WITH US in the midst of our storms and struggles.

In fact...

Simply **DECLARING** that Jesus
is the King of Kings is what
can **PUT** us in the storm!

Acts 17:1

1 When Paul and his companions had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a Jewish synagogue.



Black Sea

MACEDONIA

Rome

Thessalonica

Berea

ACHAIA

Corinth

Athens

Apollonia

Amphipolis

Philippi

Troas

Byzantium

BITHYNIA

MYSIA

TURKEY

GALATIA

ASIA

Antioch

Ephesus

Lystra

Tarsus

Antioch

SYRIA

CYPRUS

Mediterranean Sea

Jerusalem

MACEDONIA

Egnatian
Way

Thessalonica

Berea

Apollonia

Amphipolis

Philippi

Byzantium

MYSI

"This Jesus I am proclaiming
to you is the Messiah.
He is the King!"

vv. 3; 7



Egnatian
Way

Apollonia

Amphipolis

Byz

Thessalonica

Philippi

Berea

Troas

ACHAIA

ASIA

Corinth

Athens

Ephesus

Paul is now on course for Athens,
where there will be a pivotal
showdown between the TRUTH of
the Gospel—and the old,
established, tested philosophies
of the Western world.

Acts 17:11-12

¹¹ Now the Berean Jews were of more noble character than those in Thessalonica, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true.

¹² As a result, many of them believed...

What we see in Berea is the
best possible outcome!

The people are willing to
go home and study the
Word of God themselves.

YOU need to know that it's true!

These two stops in
Thessalonica and Berea are
brief. However, the impact is
eternal. Especially in light of
the two letters that Paul
writes to the church in
Thessalonica.

1 Thessalonians 1

- ² We always thank God for all of you and continually mention you in our prayers.
- ³ We remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Corinthians 13:13

“Now these three remain:

faith hope love

But the greatest of these is love.”

