

Questions on Acts chapter 17

1. How far was it from Philippi to Thessalonica? What is the existence of a synagogue an indication of? Verses 1-2.

2. What was the theme of Paul's reasoning at the synagogue and what was the result? Verses 3-4.

3. What motivated the unbelieving Jews and who helped them in their opposition to Paul? Verse 5.

4. What two accusations, partly true, were made against Paul and Silas? Verses 6-7.

5. Can you think of any reason the Jews would be so anxious to prove their loyalty to Rome? Verses 8-9. (See Acts 18:2)

6. How far was it from Thessalonica to Berea? Where did Paul and Silas begin? Verse 10.

7. What “noble” conduct of these Jews led to their faith and how does it contrast with those at Thessalonica? Verses 11-12.

8. What caused Paul to leave Berea? Who stayed in Berea and for what reason? Verses 13-14.

9. How far was it from Berea to Athens? How soon were Silas and Timothy to come to Paul? Verse 15.

10. What did Paul do in Athens while waiting for Silas and Timothy and what caused his spirit to be “stirred”? Verses 16-17.

11. What schools of philosophy did Paul encounter, what did they believe, and why did they think he set forth “strange gods”? Verse 18.

12. What was the Areopagus? What was the interest of the philosophers in taking Paul there? Verses 19-21.

13. Why would the men of Athens have taken Paul's first statement as a compliment? Verse 22.

14. Why could the Athenians not complain that Paul was introducing a new god to them? Verse 23.

15. How does the fact that God is "Lord of heaven and earth" cut out all the gods of elements and forces connected with this earth and heaven? Verse 24.

16. What does Paul's presentation of God do to the habit of the Athenians presenting meat and drink offerings to their gods under the persuasion that they were eaten by the gods? Verse 25.

17. Where did all the nations of the earth come from? Verse 26.

18. What was the responsibility of man to God? Where could man find God? Verses 27-28.

19. How would the fact that we are the offspring of God show that God is not like gold, silver, or stone? Verse 29.

20. What fearful responsibility to God is now revealed to the men of Athens? Verse 30.

21. Why should man meet that fearful responsibility and what assurance do we have that it will be terrible if we do not? Verse 31.

22. What broke up Paul's meeting with the Athenians? Verses 32-33.

23. What were the three reactions to Paul's discourse? Verse 32-34.

Thought Question:

24. How many churches did Paul leave behind in Macedonia and how do we know that his efforts in Thessalonica were very successful although he was greatly opposed? (See 1 Thessalonians 1:5-10)