

Welcome to the Worship Celebration of

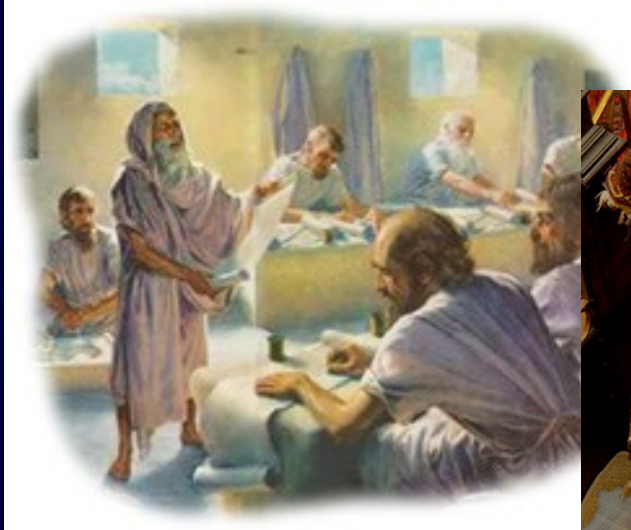


SIMPLY BIBLICAL | FAMILY INTEGRATED

Church – The Beginnings, Part 49

Be Like the Bereans – Search the Scriptures Daily

Acts 17:10-15





10 The brethren immediately sent Paul and Silas away by night to Berea, and when they arrived, they went into the synagogue of the Jews. **11** Now these were more noble-minded than those in Thessalonica, for they received the word with **GREAT EAGERNESS**, examining the Scriptures daily to see whether these things were so.

1. “Noble-Minded” or “Fair-Minded” ...

→ εὐγενέστεροι → **NOBLE**, Full of Dignified, nobility of lineage of birth and heritage, charitable. In this case the focus is on the “Thinking” of those Jews in that synagogue. They were dignified, noble, open and fair minded – allowing Paul to speak, and they were confirming the what Paul was teaching with the Scriptures – **EXAMINING SEARCHING ...** This is something that most of the Jews in Thessalonica did not do, evidently.



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1. “Noble-Minded” or “Fair-Minded” ...

What/Who is being compared?

The Jews of the Berean Synagogue compared with the Jews (overall) of the Synagogue in Thessalonica.

No Jews in Berea caused any riots, but there were some who caused riots in Thessalonica. AND → It did not take 3 Sabbaths to convince the Jews in Berea, evidently.



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2. What did the Thessalonian Believers have in COMMON?

The Jews and Gentiles that believed in Christ in Thessalonica were NOT being compared here. We know from the First Three Chapters of 1 Thessalonians that the Jews and Gentiles that became born-again in Christ in Thessalonica → RECEIVED the Word of God with all Eagerness – as the Word of God. Both the Bereans and those that got saved in Thessalonica have this in common. The both EAGERLY RECEIVED the WORD.



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3. What did the Bereans do DAILY?

EXAMINING SEARCHING → the WORD of God – The Holy Scriptures. They were doing this to make sure that what Paul was teaching lined up with God’s Revealed, Written Word. To them, they had what we would call the Old Testament Scriptures or the Tanakh – The Hebrew Scriptures (Genesis thru Malachi)

Why was this so important to them?



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They did not want to follow anything other than what would please God. This is another reason why Luke called them more noble-minded. They did not want to be deceived.

Here are some Scriptural Passages related to this:

2 Timothy 2:15; 2 Timothy 3:16-4:4; 1 John 4:1



2 Timothy 2:15 - Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth.



**Diligently Studying – Accuracy in Handling God’s Word ...
Teaching God’s Word, Sharing It, giving it out.**

Verifying, checking things against it ...



2 Timothy 3:16 – 4:4

All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; ¹⁷ so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.

4: ¹ I solemnly charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by His appearing and His kingdom: ² preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction. ³ For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires, ⁴ and will turn away their ears from the truth and will turn aside to myths.



1 John 4:1

Beloved, DO NOT BELIEVE every spirit, but TEST the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world.



.....
This relates to **EXAMINING, TESTING, DISCERNING** various “Spiritual Teachings” that come our way claiming to be “from God” or from a “higher power” or angels, etc. → **Are they really from God or not?**

So, what must we use as the basis for our examinations and our investigations? We must do like the Bereans did, **Study the Scriptures Daily to see if these things be so.** We must look to God’s Word, His Revealed Written Word and compare these so-called “teachings” against the Word of God. We **cannot use** worldly philosophy, or even “church traditions”, etc. → **Simply BIBLICAL**



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3. What did the Bereans do DAILY?

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How does their example help us today?

We need to read and/or study God's Word daily in some way, shape or form. We must KNOW the Scriptures

We must ABIDE in God's Word (John 8:31-36 & 15:1-11)

This will help us to NOT Deceived by false teachings

(read Eph. 4:14 for comparison – Equipped in God's Word)



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12 Therefore many of them BELIEVED, along with a number of PROMINENT Greek women and men.

4. What categories of People believed in Christ?

Similar in pattern to all the cities since Acts 13 onward:

- a. Genetic Israeli Jews (genetic descendants of Jacob)
- b. Gentile Jewish coverters
- c. Gentile God Fearers

NOTICE: a number of PROMINENT Greek Women & Men

→ Powerfully Influential, maybe even rich, popular, etc.

Also notice the order → Women (first) and (then) Men



13 But when the Jews of Thessalonica found out that the word of God had been proclaimed by Paul in Berea also, they came there as well, agitating and stirring up the crowds.



5. Who came and from Thessalonica and cause riots in Berea?



The Jews who were NOT Persuaded by God via the Gospel through Paul & Silas. They were still filled with Jealous, Envious RAGE. It wasn't all of the Jews from Thessalonica, but specific Gospel-Rejecting Jews. I often wondered why they even cared about what Paul was teaching. But, remember, Paul (Saul) was just like this before Christ. They probably thought that what they were doing is Right and Good and God-pleasing. But, of course, it wasn't. Most folks who do evil, in many cases think what they are doing is right. Call folks to Repentance no matter what.



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5. Implications ... for us and missionaries, etc.?

Satan doesn't normally give up without a fight. He uses intimidation, but he also uses the threat of death, as well. He has an arsenal of weapons.



**Our Weapons are Mighty through God – more powerful
Read Ephesians 6:10-20 & 2 Corinthians 10:3-5**



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5. Other Implications:

True Christians, Biblical Christians have been the Pioneers to get the Gospel out to the farthest reaches of the Globe.

Those who oppose the Gospel – false “Christian” beliefs such as JW, Mormons, Islam, etc. Seem to only go where Christians have already Pioneered the push of the Gospel to. Those that oppose the Gospel can only seek to corrupt or disrupt the Gospel AFTER it has been planted.

Remember that. Satan can only corrupt. He cannot originate anything.





14 Then immediately the brethren sent Paul out to go as far as the sea; and Silas and Timothy remained there. 15 Now those who escorted Paul brought him as far as Athens; and receiving a command for Silas and Timothy to come to him as soon as possible, they left.

Paul was escorted away, but it seems that Silas and Timothy and the newly planted church there in Berea all stayed together for a while. → Follow-up, Equipping, etc.

Even though Paul left Berea, the new Berean church was in good hands – of Silas and Timothy. God was using each person on that Team.

Differing Giftedness being used accordingly.

How can God use you, today? How has He Gifted You to serve in the Body of Christ?