

“This Jesus . . . IS the Christ”

Acts 17:1 When they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a Jewish synagogue. 2 As his custom was, Paul went into the synagogue, and on three Sabbath days he reasoned with them from the Scriptures, 3 explaining and proving that the Christ had to suffer and rise from the dead. “This Jesus I am proclaiming to you is the Christ,” he said. 4 Some of the Jews were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, as did a large number of God-fearing Greeks and not a few prominent women. 5 But the 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. 6 But when they did not find them, they dragged Jason and some other brothers 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.” 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 brothers sent Paul and Silas away to Berea. On arriving there, they went to the Jewish synagogue.

Did Jesus Christ Really Rise from the Dead?

1. This question of the resurrection of Jesus Christ is the _____ to Christianity and, in fact, it is the key to _____ faiths.
2. Paul believed that Jesus came _____ from the _____ and that is _____ he was traveling the world and sharing the gospel.
Acts 17:3 explaining and proving that the Christ had to suffer and rise from the dead. “This Jesus I am proclaiming to you is the Christ,” he said.
3. The earliest disciples believed that Jesus _____ from the _____.
Acts 5:42 Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, they never stopped teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Christ.
4. But, throughout the years, there have been many _____.
 1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____
 4. _____

Continuing the Second Adventure of Paul

Left the city of Philippi – Two _____ stories!
Passed _____ Amphipolis and Apollonia. Why?
The City of Thessalonica – (name, location and importance):

In the Synagogue in Thessalonica

1. Paul had developed a _____ – he always started by sharing the Gospel message with the _____.
2. Paul understood the _____ of teaching _____.
3. Paul “_____” with them. This means Paul’s audience knew the Scriptures and were able to _____ independently.
4. Paul used _____ Scriptures and explained (*dianoigo*; means to open the mind) and _____ (*paratithemi*; means to demonstrate) that the Christ _____ to _____ and rise from the dead.
What Scriptures did he use?
5. Paul _____ that Jesus of Nazareth IS the Christ (Messiah).

The Results of Paul’s Reasoning

1. _____ of the Jews _____.
2. A _____ number of _____ believed.
3. A good number of prominent _____ believed.
4. Many of the Jews were _____ and started a _____.

The Attack on Paul and His Faith

1. The mob went to the house where Paul was _____ but didn’t _____ him (for some reason God protected Paul here!).
2. Jason, Paul’s host, was taken _____ and accused of harboring criminals; “men who have caused trouble all over the world.”
3. They were accused of _____ Caesar by suggesting another _____ to worship. *The timing of this charge is critical!*
4. Jason had to post a _____ (different than a bond today!)
1Th. 2:17 But, brothers, when we were torn away from you for a short time (in person, not in thought), out of our intense longing we made every effort to see you. 18 For we wanted to come to you – certainly I, Paul, did, again and again – but Satan stopped us.
5. Paul and his group were taken during the _____ to _____.

Some Lessons to Consider:

1. Is your _____ making a _____?
2. Sometimes God keeps you _____ suffering and sometimes He _____ you out of suffering. Trust him!
3. If Jesus rose from the dead, . . .