

spread the
WORD

The Book of Acts

The Power of God's Word

Acts 17:1-15

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The Power of God's Word

The Power of God's Word

Acts 17:1-15 Now when they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a synagogue of the Jews. 2 And Paul went in, as was his custom, and on three Sabbath days he reasoned with them from the Scriptures, 3 explaining and proving that it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead, and saying, “This Jesus, whom I proclaim to you, is the Christ.” -

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4 And some of them were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, as did a great many of the devout Greeks and not a few of the leading women. 5 But the Jews were jealous, and taking some wicked men of the rabble, they formed a mob, set the city in an uproar, and attacked the house of Jason, seeking to bring them out to the crowd. 6 And when they could not find them, they dragged Jason and some of the brothers before the city authorities, shouting, "These men who have turned the world upside down have come here also, -

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7 and Jason has received them, and they are all acting against the decrees of Caesar, saying that there is another king, Jesus.” 8 And the people and the city authorities were disturbed when they heard these things. 9 And when they had taken money as security from Jason and the rest, they let them go. 10 The brothers immediately sent Paul and Silas away by night to Berea, and when they arrived they went into the Jewish synagogue. -

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11 Now these Jews were more noble than those in Thessalonica; they received the word with all eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see if these things were so. 12 Many of them therefore believed, with not a few Greek women of high standing as well as men. 13 But when the Jews from Thessalonica learned that the word of God was proclaimed by Paul at Berea also, they came there too, agitating and stirring up the crowds. -

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14 Then the brothers immediately sent Paul off on his way to the sea, but Silas and Timothy remained there. 15 Those who conducted Paul brought him as far as Athens, and after receiving a command for Silas and Timothy to come to him as soon as possible, they departed. (ESV)

The Power of God's Word



The Power of God's Word

The Power of God's Word

I. God's Word has the power to persuade us about Jesus.

A. Through sheer reason.

1 Now when they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a synagogue of the Jews. 2 And Paul went in, as was his custom, and on three Sabbath days he reasoned with them from the Scriptures,

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I. God's Word has the power to persuade us about Jesus.

A. Through sheer reason.

- *1 Peter 3:15 but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect,*

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I. God's Word has the power to persuade us about Jesus.

A. Through sheer reason.

- *Isaiah 1:18* "Come now, let us reason together, says the Lord: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool.

The Power of God's Word

- I. God's Word has the power to persuade us about Jesus.
- B. Through thorough explanation.
3 explaining

The Power of God's Word

I. God's Word has the power to persuade us about Jesus.

B. Through thorough explanation.

Luke 24:25-27 And he said to them, "O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! 26 Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" 27 And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

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I. God's Word has the power to persuade us about Jesus.

C. Through evidential proof.

and proving that it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead, and saying,

- *Genesis 3:15 I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.”*

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I. God's Word has the power to persuade us about Jesus.

C. Through evidential proof.

- *Isaiah 7:14 Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.*
- *Isaiah 9:6-7 For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, -*

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I. God's Word has the power to persuade us about Jesus.

C. Through evidential proof.

- *Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. 7 Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.*

The Power of God's Word

I. God's Word has the power to persuade us about Jesus.

C. Through evidential proof.

- *Psalm 22:12-18 ... 16 For dogs encompass me; a company of evildoers encircles me; they have pierced my hands and feet— 17 I can count all my bones— they stare and gloat over me; 18 they divide my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots.*

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I. God's Word has the power to persuade us about Jesus.

C. Through evidential proof.

- *Job 19:25-27 For I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last he will stand upon the earth. 26 And after my skin has been thus destroyed, yet in my flesh I shall see God, 27 whom I shall see for myself, and my eyes shall behold, and not another. My heart faints within me!*

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I. God's Word has the power to persuade us about Jesus.

C. Through evidential proof.

- *Psalm 16:9-10 Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices; my flesh also dwells secure. 10 For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol, or let your holy one see corruption.*

The Power of God's Word

I. God's Word has the power to persuade us about Jesus.

D. Through bold proclamation.

"This Jesus, whom I proclaim to you, is the Christ." 4 And some of them were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, as did a great many of the devout Greeks and not a few of the leading women.

The Power of God's Word

I. God's Word has the power to persuade us about Jesus.

D. Through bold proclamation.

- *Romans 10:13-15 For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." 14 How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? -*

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I. God's Word has the power to persuade us about Jesus.

D. Through bold proclamation.

- *15 And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!"*

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II. God's Word has the power to separate.

A. The righteous from the unrighteous.

5 But the Jews were jealous, and taking some wicked men of the rabble, they formed a mob, set the city in an uproar, and attacked the house of Jason, seeking to bring them out to the crowd.

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II. God's Word has the power to separate.

B. The peaceful from the aggressive.

6 And when they could not find them, they dragged Jason and some of the brothers before the city authorities, shouting, "These men who have turned the world upside down have come here also,

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II. God's Word has the power to separate.

C. The geniune from the counterfeit.

7 and Jason has received them, and they are all acting against the decrees of Caesar, saying that there is another king, Jesus." 8 And the people and the city authorities were disturbed when they heard these things. 9 And when they had taken money as security from Jason and the rest, they let them go.

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II. God's Word has the power to separate.

C. The geniune from the counterfeit.

- *1 Timothy 6:15-16 ... he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords, 16 who alone has immortality, who dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see. To him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.*

The Power of God's Word

II. God's Word has the power to separate.

C. The geniune from the counterfeit.

- *Isaiah 40:15-17, 23 Behold, the nations are like a drop from a bucket, and are accounted as the dust on the scales; behold, he takes up the coastlands like fine dust... 17 All the nations are as nothing before him, they are accounted by him as less than nothing and emptiness... 23 who brings princes to nothing, and makes the rulers of the earth as emptiness.*

The Power of God's Word

III. God's Word has the power to transform us.

A. As we eagerly receive His Word.

10 The brothers immediately sent Paul and Silas away by night to Berea, and when they arrived they went into the Jewish synagogue. 11 Now these Jews were more noble than those in Thessalonica; they received the word with all eagerness,

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III. God's Word has the power to transform us.

B. As we daily examine the Scriptures.

examining the Scriptures daily

- *Psalms 1:2 but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night.*

The Power of God's Word

III. God's Word has the power to transform us.

C. As we verify what is true.

to see if these things were so

- *John 5:39 You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about me,*

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III. God's Word has the power to transform us.

D. As we are saved through faith.

12 Many of them therefore believed, with not a few Greek women of high standing as well as men. 13 But when the Jews from Thessalonica learned that the word of God was proclaimed by Paul at Berea also, they came there too, agitating and stirring up the crowds. 14 Then the brothers immediately sent Paul off on his way to the sea, but Silas and Timothy remained there. -

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D. As we are saved through faith.

15 Those who conducted Paul brought him as far as Athens, and after receiving a command for Silas and Timothy to come to him as soon as possible, they departed.

- *Acts 16:31 And they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household."*
- *Romans 10:17 So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.*

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III. God's Word has the power to transform us.

D. As we are saved through faith.

- *Romans 12:2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.*
- *2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.*

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Deuteronomy 32:45-47 And when Moses had finished speaking all these words to all Israel, he said to them, “Take to heart all the words by which I am warning you today, that you may command them to your children, that they may be careful to do all the words of this law. 47 For it is no empty word for you, but your very life, and by this word you shall live long in the land that you are going over the Jordan to possess.”

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God's Word has the power to persuade us about Jesus through sheer reason, through thorough explanation, through evidential proof, and through bold proclamation. God's Word has the power to separate the righteous from the unrighteous, the peaceful from the aggressive, and the genuine from the counterfeit. God's Word has the power to transform our lives as we eagerly receive His Word, daily examine the Scriptures, verify what is true, and are saved through faith. His Word is powerful.

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