

Reactions to the Preached Word

TEXT: Acts 17:11

INTRODUCTION:

- A. GOD INTENDS TO SAVE PEOPLE THROUGH THE GOSPEL (**Rom. 1:16-17**).
- B. IT MUST BE PREACHED.
 - 1. Great Commission's goal (**Mark 16:15**).
 - 2. How can they believe except they hear (**Rom. 10:13-15**).
 - 3. God's plan (**1 Cor. 1:21**).
- C. AN INTELLECTUAL PROCESS.
 - 1. Where does faith come from? (**Rom. 10:17; John 20:30-31**).
 - 2. That is not to say you must have a high IQ (**1 Cor. 1:26**).
 - 3. God's appeal is an appeal to reason (**Acts 17:2; John 6:44-45**).
- D. NOT ALL PREACHING IS PLEASANT (**2 Tim. 4:2**).
- E. BEFORE THE WORD CAN WORK IT MUST BE RECEIVED (**1 Tim. 2:13**).
- F. WE MAY PROFIT FROM A STUDY OF THE VARIOUS REACTIONS PEOPLE IN THE BOOK OF ACTS HAD TO THE PREACHED WORD.

I. THE BEREANS (Acts 17:11).

- A. **OPEN** MINDED **è** **NARROW** MINDED.
- B. THE RESULT OF THIS ATTITUDE:
 - 1. Many believed (**vs. 12**).
 - 2. Even those who didn't, but listened called "noble."

II. THE JEWS WHO HEARD STEPHEN (Acts 7).

- A. STEPHEN SAW THE NEED TO "GET TOUGH" (**vs. 51-53**).
- B. THEY "GOT TOUGH" BACK (**vs. 54-60**).
- C. **THE PROBLEM IS NOT THAT THEY TOOK PERSONALLY WHAT STEPHEN SAID. THEY WERE SUPPOSED TO APPLY TO SELF.**
- D. THE PROBLEM – WRONG REACTION (**2 Cor. 7:10**).

III. CONTRAST è THOSE WHO HEARD PETER (Acts 2:36-37).

- A. PETER REASONED TO THE LORDSHIP OF JESUS.
- B. THEY WERE CONVICTED è "PRICKED IN THEIR HEART."

IV. THE COUNCIL (Acts 4).

- A. THE SIMPLE GOSPEL (**vs. 8-12**).
- B. COULD NOT **REFUTE** IT (**vs. 13-14**).
- C. SOUGHT TO **SUPPRESS** IT (**vs. 17-21**)

V. GENTILES ON MARS HILL (Acts 17).

- A. SOME MOCKED (**vs. 32**).
- B. SOME WERE MERELY CURIOUS (**vs. 32**).
- C. BUT SOME BELIEVED (**vs. 34**).

VI. JEWS IN ANTIOCH OF PISIDIA (Acts 13).

- A. **JEALOUSY** PROVOKED THEM TO **RUDENESS** (**vs. 45**).
- B. THE WORDS OF BARNABAS (**vs. 46**).

VII. OTHERS.

- A. **FELIX** (**Acts 24:25**).
- B. **FESTUS** (**Acts 26:24-29**). **AGRIPPA** – "With but little persuasion."

VIII. SOME WHO RECEIVED HIS WORD.

- A. **Acts 2:41; 8:12.**
- B. THE EUNUCH (**Acts 8:36**).
- C. THE JAILOR (**Acts 16:33ff**).
- D. CRISPUS (**Acts 18:8**).
- E. PAUL (**Acts 22:10, 16**).

CONCLUSION:

- A. HOW DO **YOU** REACT?
- B. I HOPE **PERSONALLY!**
- C. WHAT IS HOLDING YOU BACK?