

**Acts 17:1-15**  
**Turning The World Upside Down**

When the British army surrendered at Yorktown effectively ending the American war of Independence it marched away to a tune entitled “The World Turned Upside Down.” It was the end for both Britain and the United States. In a more profound way the world was turned upside down in the first century A.D. as the gospel was proclaimed by the apostles throughout the known world.

**I. How The Lord Turns the World Upside Down – v. 1-3**

**A. Hostile hearers – Rom. 8:18; Phil. 1:21**

**B. Boldness**

1. A boldness to preach the gospel – I Thess. 2:2
2. Thomas Manton defines our mission...(Matt. 6:24; Luke 14:26; I John 5:4)

**C. Reasoning from the Scripture**

1. Be ready to give a defense – I Pet. 3:15
2. Paul had not changed his method – Acts 17:17-18
3. The two edged sword – Heb. 4:12; Jam. 1:21

**D. Content of that Reasoning**

1. Proclaim Christ – v.3
2. Christ’s death and resurrection – Isa. 53:10-12; Psa. 16:10,11

**II. What Happens When the Lord Turns Peoples Lives Upside Down**

**A. The gospel does not simply come with words from Scripture but with power of the Holy Spirit – I Thess. 1:5; II Cor. 2:16**

**B. In a relatively short time some Jews were converted to Christ and joined Paul and Silas – II Thess. 1:9**

**C. Pay homage to the Son of God – Psa. 2:12**

**D. Blessing in Berea v.10-13**

1. They were more “noble-minded” than the believers in Thessalonica.
2. They received the message with great eagerness – v.11; II Tim. 2:15
3. They examined the Scriptures daily (Lenski) Isa. 8:20; I Thess. 5:21

**E. Opposition:**

1. When the Lord is at work it never fails the powers of darkness are not far behind – (G.Campbel Morgan)
2. Doors open and close – v. 14-15

**Conclusion:**

1. *We can be like Paul and his missionary team turning the world upside down! The gospel is the means to lift soul’s right side up. II Cor. 5:17; Gal. 5:17*
2. *We can like Paul and his missionary team experience what happens when the Lord turns people’s lives upside down. Noble- mindedness – I Pet. 2:2*  
*Eagerness – comes to an enlightened soul when one is eager he can’t wait for something to take place.*  
*Examination – Is to test our skills. It is a formal interrogation. (Students of Theology are examined by the Presbytery)*

