

Acts # 76

**“It Was the Religious, not the Rowdy, who Attacked God’s Apostle” *Acts 18:9-12; 1st Corinthians 1:20-31***

**Saul of Tarsus was a religious man who believed that Christianity was going against the grain of Judaism.**

The Apostle Paul is now a humble believer in Jesus Christ who knows that intellectual pursuits and sexual immorality go against the grain of a spiritually healthy lifestyle. *These can be major distractions for serious students of the Word of God, known as disciples of Christ.*

The Church Age Christian way of life goes against the grain of Satan’s world system. The 180 degree turn from most everything and everyone is God’s plan for your life as a Christian.

**Believers who know they are from humble origin and inferior ability apart from Jesus Christ are not losers unless they become arrogant and therefore, extend their stay in Satan’s world system.**

Because God made all Church Age believers His Royal Family through the Baptism of the Holy Spirit at the point of their salvation, they are the primary factor for national impact in this era of the plan of God.

*In other words, the Royal Family of God has a mission in the Church Age and never before has so much depended on so few; the believers in any generation within any given nation.*

The mission of the Royal Family is to influence the course of history as it relates to its continuance through their attitude toward Jesus Christ and His mind of biblical truth, **Paul left Athens, the Ivy League of the Roman Empire and heads to Corinth, the Las Vegas on steroids of the Empire.**

These are two cities which represent man’s two greatest allurements that place his soul in quicksand-like bondage: intellectual arrogance and unfettered sexual lust.

*The Athenians rejected the Gospel of Jesus Christ as unappealing to such highly intellectual people who needed no assistance outside themselves.*

After all, who needs a Savior when you can logically figure anything out or solve any problem yourself?

**Salvation is not inviting Jesus Christ into your heart or repenting from your sins or committing your life to the Lord or even making Jesus Christ Lord of your life; it’s a non-meritorious expression of faith alone in Christ alone by grace alone.**

It’s as simple as believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and be saved and believe means to trust in something or in this case, Someone to do for you what you could never do for yourself.

*Crispus and his family do just that; they all believe in Jesus Christ alone as their only Savior, who died on their cross in their place for their sins.*

And as a result of this prominent family believing, many other Corinthians who heard Paul's good news Gospel message, believed and were baptized to openly demonstrate their new found faith in Israel's Messiah.

**So, God says to Paul and to us: 'Don't ever be silent when you have a chance to communicate the Word of God', even though we'll all be tempted to because of opposition.**

The pressure on Paul is getting to him but he's going to get up, come to his spiritual senses, pick up the pieces and move on.

*Paul's distress could very easily silence him permanently as he sees the Jews at the synagogue who couldn't care less about the Word of God as his witnessing efforts haven't had much success so far but that's just so far and if we could just hang in there, it would be just so far for us too!*

The Lord Jesus Christ promised to never leave us or forsake us no matter what our circumstances dictate to us.

God knows there'll be many people who'll respond to Paul's Gospel message and of course, this came true not like in Athens where there were few who responded.