

Acts 17:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the brethren immediately sent away Paul and Silas by night unto Berea: who coming thither went into the synagogue of the Jews.

Analysis

The brethren immediately sent away Paul and Silas by night unto Berea—The Thessalonian believers demonstrated spiritual wisdom and protective love by swiftly evacuating Paul and Silas under cover of darkness. The Greek εὐθέως (eutheōs, "immediately") emphasizes the urgency; the mob violence instigated by jealous Jews (v. 5-9) made delay dangerous. Berea lay 50 miles southwest, off the main Egnatian Way, offering strategic obscurity.

Who coming thither went into the synagogue of the Jews—Paul's unshakable missionary pattern: despite persecution in Thessalonica, he returned first to the synagogue in Berea (cf. Romans 1:16, "to the Jew first"). This reflects both theological priority (Israel's covenant privilege) and practical strategy (God-fearers in synagogues formed the initial nucleus of Gentile churches). The text hints at Paul's apostolic resilience—beaten, mobbed, and night-fled, yet immediately resuming gospel proclamation.

Historical Context

Acts 17 documents Paul's second missionary journey (AD 49-52) through Macedonia. Berea (modern Veria, Greece) was a Macedonian city with a significant Jewish community. The synagogue strategy was standard for Diaspora Judaism: Saturday Sabbath gatherings provided natural access to both Jews and "God-

fearing" Gentiles who attended. Luke wrote Acts circa AD 60-62, emphasizing the gospel's spread despite opposition.

Related Passages

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How do the Thessalonian believers model protective care for gospel ministers facing persecution today?
2. What does Paul's immediate return to synagogue ministry reveal about mission priority versus personal safety?

Interlinear Text

Οἱ	δὲ	ἀδελφοὶ	εὐθέως	διὰ	τῆς	νυκτὸς	ἐξέπεμψαν
G3588	And	the brethren	immediately	by	G3588	night	sent away
	G1161	G80	G2112	G1223		G3571	G1599

τόν	τε	Παῦλον	καὶ	τὸν	Σιλᾶν	εἰς	Βέροϊαν	οἵτινες
G3588	G5037	Paul	and	G3588	Silas	into	Berea	who
		G3972	G2532		G4609	G1519	G960	G3748

παραγενόμενοι	εἰς	τὴν	συναγωγὴν	τῶν	Ἰουδαίων
coming	into	G3588	the synagogue	G3588	of the Jews
G3854	G1519		G4864		G2453

ἀπήεσαν
thither went
G549

Additional Cross-References

Acts 17:2 (References Paul): And Paul, as his manner was, went in unto them, and three sabbath days reasoned with them out of the scriptures,

Acts 20:4 (Parallel theme): And there accompanied him into Asia Sopater of Berea; and of the Thessalonians, Aristarchus and Secundus; and Gaius of Derbe, and Timotheus; and of Asia, Tychicus and Trophimus.

1 Thessalonians 2:2 (Parallel theme): But even after that we had suffered before, and were shamefully entreated, as ye know, at Philippi, we were bold in our God to speak unto you the gospel of God with much contention.

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