

Acts 17:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Paul, as his manner was, went in unto them, and three sabbath days reasoned with them out of the scriptures,

Analysis

Paul's custom was reasoning with Jews 'out of the scriptures' for 'three sabbath days,' showing his systematic biblical approach. The verb 'reasoned' (Greek 'dialegomai') indicates dialogue and explanation, not mere assertion. This pattern of Scripture-based persuasion models how to engage minds while trusting the Spirit to convince hearts.

Historical Context

Paul's synagogue ministry in Thessalonica followed his typical pattern: begin with Scripture, demonstrate Jesus as Messiah, invite response. His three-week teaching established the church Paul later addressed in his Thessalonian epistles.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

1 John 4:8 — God is love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. How do you combine biblical reasoning with spiritual persuasion in sharing the gospel?
2. What does Paul's systematic, Scripture-based approach teach about engaging people's minds as well as hearts?

Interlinear Text

κατὰ δὲ τὸ εἰωθὸς τῷ Παύλῳ εἰσῆλθεν πρὸς
as And G3588 his manner was G3588 Paul went in unto
G2596 G1161 G1486 G3972 G1525 G4314

αὐτοῖς καὶ ἐπὶ σάββατα τρία διελέγετο αὐτοῖς ἀπὸ^{τῶν}
them and G1909 sabbath three days reasoned them out of
G846 G2532 G4521 G5140 G1256 G846 G575

τῶν γραφῶν
the scriptures
G3588 G1124

Additional Cross-References

Acts 9:20 (Parallel theme): And straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, that he is the Son of God.

Acts 13:5 (Word): And when they were at Salamis, they preached the word of God in the synagogues of the Jews: and they had also John to their minister.

Isaiah 1:18 (Parallel theme): Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.

Acts 18:4 (Parallel theme): And he reasoned in the synagogue every sabbath, and persuaded the Jews and the Greeks.

Acts 8:35 (Word): Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus.

Acts 14:1 (Parallel theme): And it came to pass in Iconium, that they went both together into the synagogue of the Jews, and so spake, that a great multitude both of the Jews and also of the Greeks believed.

Acts 17:17 (Parallel theme): Therefore disputed he in the synagogue with the Jews, and with the devout persons, and in the market daily with them that met with him.

Acts 17:10 (References Paul): And the brethren immediately sent away Paul and Silas by night unto Berea: who coming thither went into the synagogue of the Jews.

John 18:20 (Parallel theme): Jesus answered him, I spake openly to the world; I ever taught in the synagogue, and in the temple, whither the Jews always resort; and in secret have I said nothing.

Luke 4:16 (Parallel theme): And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up for to read.