

# Acts 17:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And when they found them not, they drew Jason and certain brethren unto the rulers of the city, crying, These that have turned the world upside down are come hither also;

## Analysis

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The accusation that Paul and Silas 'turned the world upside down' inadvertently testified to the gospel's revolutionary power. The phrase captures Christianity's cultural disruption—its message challenged social, political, and religious status quo. The enemies' recognition of global impact ('world') shows the movement's rapid spread.

## Historical Context

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In Thessalonica (AD 50), Jewish opposition accused Christians of treason against Caesar by proclaiming 'another king, one Jesus.' This charge threatened Roman peace and turned city rulers against believers, though it acknowledged Christianity's political implications.

## Related Passages

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**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

**1 John 4:8** — God is love

## Study Questions

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1. How should the gospel 'turn upside down' contemporary cultural assumptions and values?
2. What does enemy recognition of Christianity's revolutionary nature teach about faithful witness?

## Interlinear Text

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μὴ εύρόντες δὲ αὐτοὺς ἔσυρον τὸν Ἰάσονα καὶ  
not when they found And them they drew Jason also  
G3361 G2147 G1161 G846 G4951 G3588 G2394 G2532

τινας ἀδελφοὺς ἐπὶ τοὺς πολιτάρχας βοῶντες ὅτι Οἱ  
certain brethren unto the rulers of the city crying G3754 G3588  
G5100 G80 G1909 G4173 G994

τὴν οἰκουμένην ἀναστατώσαντες οὗτοι καὶ ἐνθάδε  
the world that have turned These also hither  
G3588 G3625 G387 G3778 G2532 G1759

πάρεισιν

are come  
G3918

## Additional Cross-References

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**Acts 24:5** (Parallel theme): For we have found this man a pestilent fellow, and a mover of sedition among all the Jews throughout the world, and a ringleader of the sect of the Nazarenes:

**Acts 28:22** (Parallel theme): But we desire to hear of thee what thou thinkest: for as concerning this sect, we know that every where it is spoken against.

**Luke 23:5** (Parallel theme): And they were the more fierce, saying, He stirreth up the people, teaching throughout all Jewry, beginning from Galilee to this place.

**Matthew 24:14** (Parallel theme): And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.

**Amos 7:10** (Parallel theme): Then Amaziah the priest of Beth-el sent to Jeroboam king of Israel, saying, Amos hath conspired against thee in the midst of the house of Israel: the land is not able to bear all his words.

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