

# Acts 18:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And when Paul was now about to open his mouth, Gallio said unto the Jews, If it were a matter of wrong or wicked lewdness, O ye Jews, reason would that I should bear with you:

## Analysis

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Gallio's refusal - 'If it were a matter of wrong or wicked lewdness, O ye Jews, I would reason with you' - distinguished criminal from religious matters. His judicial restraint protected Paul while establishing precedent for Roman treatment of Christianity.

## Historical Context

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Gallio's ruling that Christianity was an internal Jewish dispute effectively protected it from prosecution throughout his jurisdiction. This precedent influenced subsequent Roman policy.

## Related Passages

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**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

## Study Questions

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1. How did Gallio's ruling benefit the spread of Christianity?
2. What does this teach about God's use of secular authorities for His purposes?

## Interlinear Text

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μέλλοντος δὲ τοῦ Παύλου ἀνοίγειν τὸ στόμα εἶπεν  
**was now about** **And** G3588 **when Paul** **to open** G3588 **his mouth** **said**  
G3195 G1161 G3972 G455 G4750 G2036

ό Γαλλίων πρὸς τοὺς Ἰουδαῖοι Εἰ μὲν οὖν ἦν  
G3588 **Gallio** **unto** G3588 **the Jews** **If** G3303 G3767 **it were**  
G1058 G4314 G2453 G1487 G2258

ἀδίκημά τι ἢ ράδιούργημα πονηρόν ὥ Ἰουδαῖοι  
**matter of wrong** **a** **or** **lewdness** **wicked** **O** **the Jews**  
G92 G5100 G2228 G4467 G4190 G5599 G2453

κατὰ λόγον ἀν ἡνεσχόμην ὑμῶν·  
**reason** G3056 **would** **that I should bear** **with you**  
G2596 G302 G430 G5216

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