

# Sermon Notes: When Is It OK For Christians To Become Angry?

Speaker: Pastor Wes Date: 05/26/24 Scriptural References: Acts 17:1-17

## Introduction

- **Opening Prayer:** Thanksgiving for freedom in Christ and those who sacrificed for earthly freedom.

## 1. Context and Background

- **Scripture Reading:** Acts 17:16-17
  - Paul is provoked by the idolatry in Athens.
- **Transition:** Explanation of taking a break from the book of Acts and returning to it for a comprehensive study.

## 2. Establishment of the Early Church

- **Acts Overview:**
  - Pentecost and the spread of the church.
  - Miracles performed, including healings (e.g., stage 4 cancer).
- **Acts 17:1-3:** Paul's missionary journey to Thessalonica.
  - Paul reasons with Jews for three Sabbaths, explaining that Christ had to suffer and rise again.

## 3. Paul's Reasoning and Miracles

- **Acts 17:4-9:**
  - Some Jews and many Greeks believe.
  - Opposition arises, causing an uproar in Thessalonica.
- **Acts 17:10-12:**

- Paul and Silas sent to Berea, where they find the Bereans more fair-minded, searching the scriptures daily.

#### 4. Paul's Anger in Athens

- **Acts 17:15-17:**

- Paul's spirit is provoked by the idolatry in Athens.
- Explanation of the Greek term for "provoked" (cut to the heart).
- Comparison to modern-day injustices (e.g., child abuse and societal moral decline).

#### 5. Contemporary Application

- **Moral Decline:**

- Removal of prayer from schools in 1962 and its correlation with increased societal issues (e.g., violent crime, single-parent households).
- Importance of Christians speaking out against moral wrongs.

- **Critical Thinking:**

- Modern education's focus on what to think rather than how to think.
- Example of students' lack of understanding regarding current political slogans.

#### 6. Call to Action

- **Christian Responsibility:**

- Encouragement for Christians to speak the truth in love.
- Importance of standing firm in faith and reasoning with others, just as Paul did.

#### Conclusion

- **Final Encouragement:**

- Reminder of the eternal perspective and the importance of sharing the Gospel lovingly and boldly.

#### Scriptural References Mentioned

- **Acts 17:1-17**
- **John 8:44** (implicit reference to truth and lies)
- **Genesis to Revelation** (various allusions)