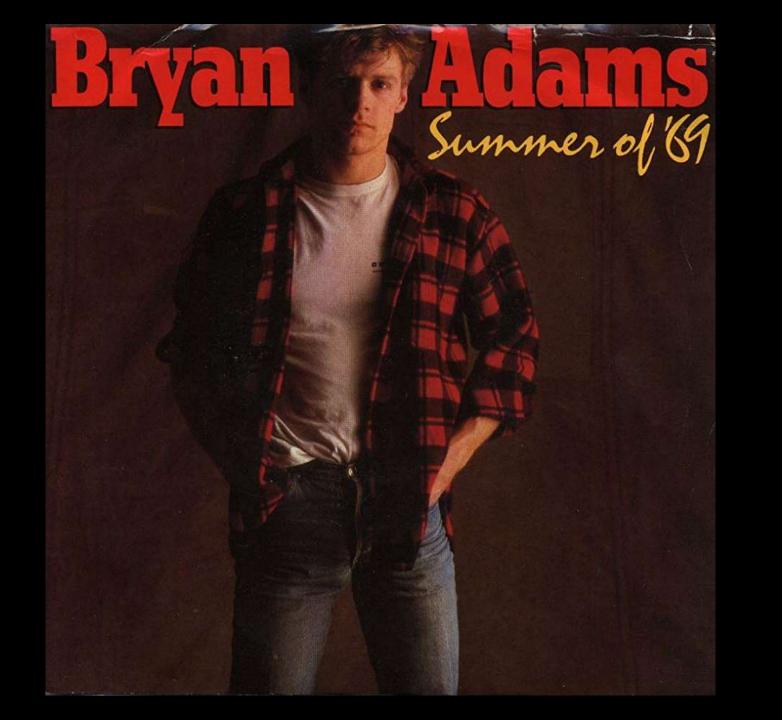
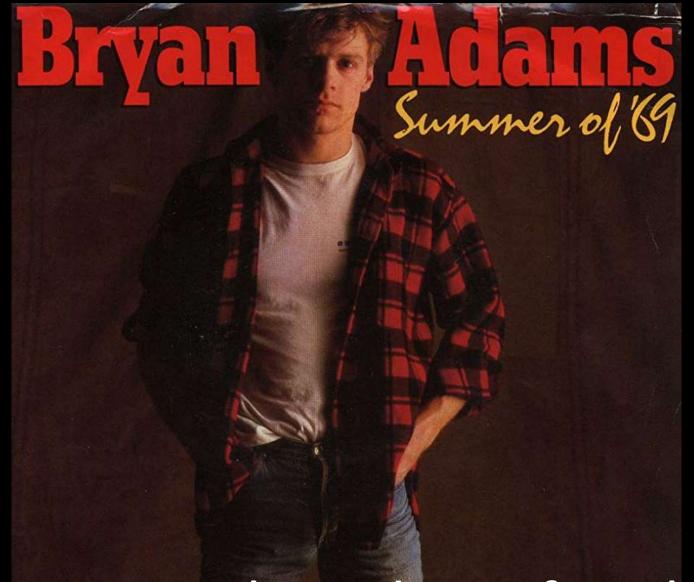
Malking on Sonshine THE APOSTLE PAUL'S GLORIOUS JOURNEY TO FREEDOM



A SUMMER STROLL THROUGH THE BOOK OF ACTS





"Those were best days of my life."































Malking on Sonshine THE APOSTLE PAUL'S GLORIOUS JOURNEY TO FREEDOM



A SUMMER STROLL THROUGH THE BOOK OF ACTS





Acts 17:1-9 (ESV): "Now when they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a synagogue of the Jews. 2 And Paul went in, as was his custom, and on three Sabbath days he reasoned with them from the Scriptures, 3 explaining and proving that it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead, and saying, 'This Jesus, whom I proclaim to you, is the Christ.'..."



"...4 And some of them were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, as did a great many of the devout Greeks and not a few of the leading women. 5 But the Jews were jealous, and taking some wicked men of the rabble, they formed a mob, set the city in an uproar, and attacked the house of Jason, seeking to bring them out to the crowd. 6 And when they could not find them, they dragged Jason and some of the brothers before the city authorities, shouting,..."



"...'These men who have turned the world upside down have come here also, 7 and Jason has received them, and they are all acting against the decrees of Caesar, saying that there is another king, Jesus.' 8 And the people and the city authorities were disturbed when they heard these things. 9 And when they had taken money as security from Jason and the rest, they let them go."

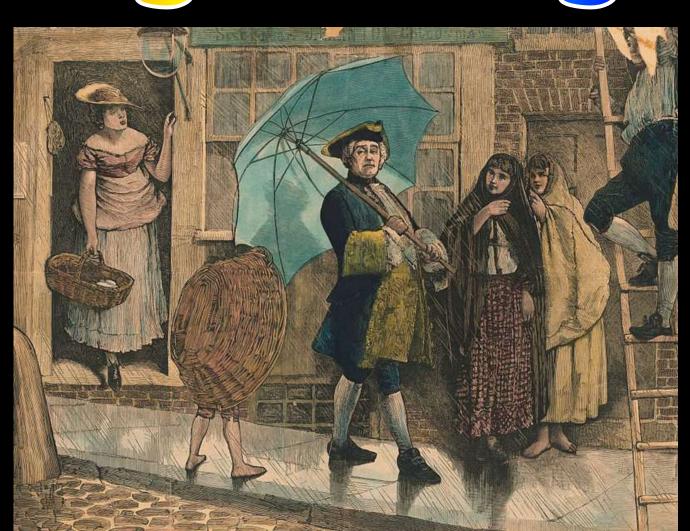
















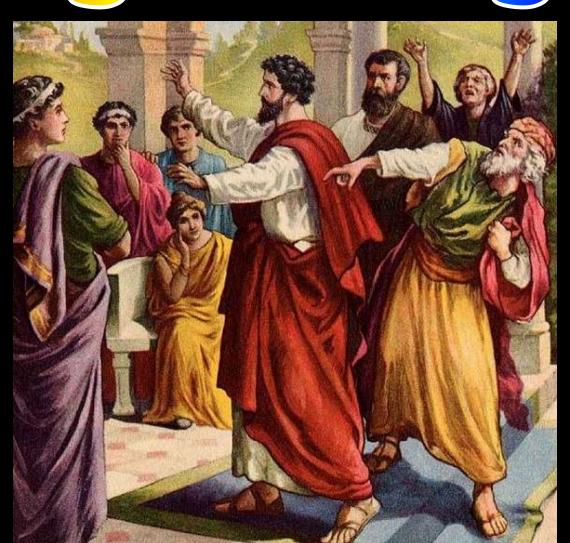


John 3:36 (ESV): "Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life."



Romans 3:21-25 (NIV): "Now apart from the law the righteousness of God has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. 22 This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. 25 God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of his blood - to be received by faith."









Acts 17:16-21 (ESV): "Now while Paul was waiting for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him as he saw that the city was full of idols. 17 So he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons, and in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there. 18 Some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers also conversed with him. And some said, 'What does this babbler wish to say?' Others said,..."



"... 'He seems to be a preacher of foreign divinities' — because he was preaching Jesus and the resurrection. 19 And they took him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, 'May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting? 20 For you bring some strange things to our ears. We wish to know therefore what these things mean." 21 Now all the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there would spend their time in nothing except telling or hearing something new."







Acts 17:1-15 (ESV): "The brothers immediately sent Paul and Silas away by night to Berea, and when they arrived they went into the Jewish synagogue. 11 Now these Jews were more noble than those in Thessalonica; they received the word with all eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see if these things were so. 12 Many of them therefore believed, with not a few Greek women of high standing as well as men..."



"...13 But when the Jews from Thessalonica learned that the word of God was proclaimed by Paul at Berea also, they came there too, agitating and stirring up the crowds. 14 Then the brothers immediately sent Paul off on his way to the sea, but Silas and Timothy remained there. 15 Those who conducted Paul brought him as far as Athens, and after receiving a command for Silas and Timothy to come to him as soon as possible, they departed."









THESSALONIANS

KNOW WHAT THEY BELIEVE
BUT DON'T

CARE WHAT YOU BELIEVE.

ATHENIANS

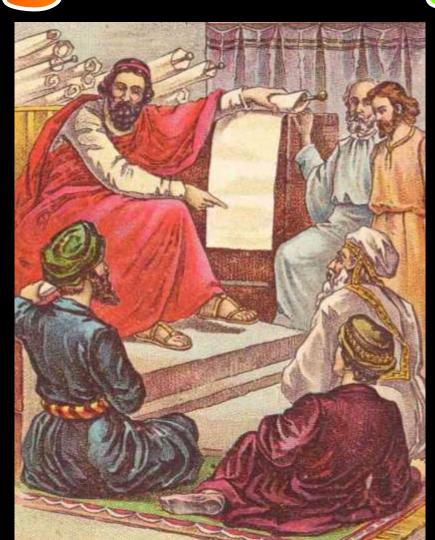
CARE WHAT YOU BELIEVE
BUT DON'T
KNOW WHAT THEY BELIEVE.

BEREANS DO BOTH.



1 Thessalonians 2:5-8 (ESV): "For we never came with words of flattery, as you know, nor with a pretext for greed — God is witness. 6 Nor did we seek glory from people, whether from you or from others, though we could have made demands as apostles of Christ. 7 But we were gentle among you, like a nursing mother taking care of her own children. 8 So, being affectionately desirous of you, we were ready to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you had become very dear to us."











Acts 17:22-34 (ESV): "So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: 'Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. 23 For as I passed along and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription: "To the unknown god." What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. 24 The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man,..."



"...25 nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. 26 And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, 27 that they should seek God, and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us,..."

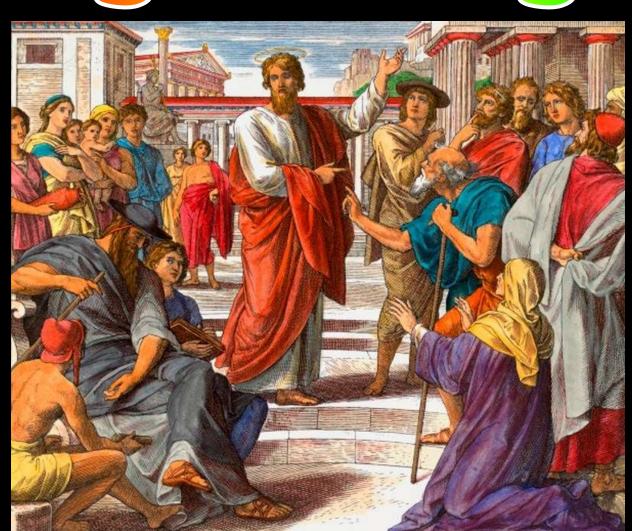


"...28 for "In him we live and move and have our being," as even some of your own poets have said, "For we are indeed his offspring." 29 Being then God's offspring, we ought not to think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of man. 30 The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent,..."



"...31 because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.' 32 Now when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked. But others said, 'We will hear you again about this.' 33 So Paul went out from their midst. 34 But some men joined him and believed, among whom also were Dionysius the Areopagite and a woman named Damaris and others with them."

The Tay













"It's not because I'm anybody in particular that I've been asked to tell you what Christians believe. In fact it's just the opposite. They've asked me, first of all because I'm a layman and not a parson, and consequently it was thought I might understand the ordinary person's point of view a bit better. Secondly, I think they asked me because it was known that I'd been an atheist for many years and only became a Christian quite fairly recently...."



"...They thought that would mean I'd be able to see the difficulties – able to remember what Christianity looks like from the outside. So you see, the long and the short of it is that I've been selected for this job just because I'm an amateur not a professional, and a beginner, not an old hand."

(C.S. Lewis, on his radio broadcast What Christians Believe, January 11, 1942)



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John 17:17 (ESV): "Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. **18** As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world."



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NEXT WEEK: ACTS CHAPTERS NINETEEN AND TWENTY