



**Church of the Living God International, Inc.**  
**Bishop Joseph White**  
**Christian Education Teaching**

May 1, 2022

**WHERE THERE IS UNITY THERE IS STRENGTH**

Lesson Text: Acts 17

**1. Paul Needed Help in Athens**

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| a. Paul needed help because, the city was given wholly to idolatry       | Acts 17:16  |
| b. Paul's spirit was stirred in Athens while waiting for Timothy & Silas | Acts 17:16  |
| c. Paul sends for Timothy & Silas for help right away                    | Acts 17:15  |
| d. Paul sends for Timothy because, Timothy had the power too             | I Cor 16:10 |

**2. The Idolatry Of The City Of Athens**

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|---|-----------------|
| a. Athens was the chief city of Greece famed for its learning   | Acts 17:15 RefC |
| b. There is no record that Paul established a church in Athens  |                 |
| c. Even though the city had Paul & two power houses (Timothy & Silas), they still couldn't get a breakthrough in the whole city |                 |
| d. This was because of the satanic powers   |                 |
| e. The satanic powers had a stronghold over education   |                 |
| f. One can rely on education so much that they don't pray   |                 |
| g. Education is good because, Paul had a PhD but, he knew he needed the power of God  |                 |
| h. However, they were able to start a church in Corinth nearby  |                 |
| i. Paul wrought no special miracles in Athens, for they did not believe   | Acts 19:11-12   |
| j. The ground in Athens was harder to break than Corinth, and Corinth had problems mentioned in two epistles                    |                 |

**3. We Need Help To Fight This Good Fight of Faith**

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|---|-------------|
| a. You may need help in your local church, jurisdiction, & organization             |             |
| b. We need help to fight this good fight of faith                                   | I Tim 6:12  |
| c. It is a spiritual battle, be strong in the Lord                                  | Eph 6:10    |
| d. You cannot fight this battle by yourself   |             |
| e. You got to have help in your church & jurisdiction because of these strong holds | Eph 6:12    |
| f. One can chase a thousand & two can chase ten thousand                            | Deut 32:30  |
| g. We need strong elders  | James 5:14  |
| h. Strong means you can pray in the Spirit when you pray                            | Jude 20     |
| i. We have a system of bishops, elders, and pastors to help one another             |             |
| j. We are helpers one to another  |             |
| k. We need helps in the church  | I Cor 12:28 |



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4. **The Opposition in Ephesus Was Idolatry**

- a. We need the power of God to fight against principalities Eph 6:12
- b. They worshipped the idol Diana in Ephesus Acts 19:24
  - i. This idol had breast all over her body Acts 19:27RefN
  - ii. Those who worshipped her, believed she was the mother and nourisher of all creation
- c. Witchcraft, voodoo, & burning incense comes with these idols
- d. This was church work, fighting against all this idolatry Eph 6:10-12

5. **Our Opposition Today Is COVID19**

- a. Our satanic opposition today is COVID19
- b. Satan is using the virus to come against the church
- c. Staying home to have church online is not the same as in person
- d. All churches (denominations) are having trouble getting people back in the church
- e. You have to pray to not get that mind
- f. Satan wants the churches to shut down
- g. Ask the Lord to keep you
- h. Through all this, we need to have a spiritual mind and watching the attack of the enemy against you and against the church

6. **Paul's Method In Starting Churches**

- a. Paul receives the vision of a man in Macedonia saying, Acts 16:9  
come over into Macedonia and help us
- b. This church in Macedonia (Philippi) was during his 2<sup>nd</sup> missionary tour
- c. Paul often visited churches to see how they were doing
- d. Church work is spiritual work
- e. Once again, they had opposition through the fortune teller Acts 16:16
- f. The city was under that influence of the spirit of divination (fortune telling)
- g. Paul leaves Corinth to Ephesus Acts 19:1-2
- h. Paul would go to the synagogues, because he knew they knew the scripture & he would start with the Jews first



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7. **We Need The Power of God To Fight Against The Principalities**

- a. My preaching and teaching came not only with enticing words
- b. An anointing should come with the title
- c. If there is no anointing with the title, that is coming up short
- d. Obedient means to convince them to believe
- e. You got to teach and preach with a made-up mind
- f. You got to be convinced first before convincing others
- g. If you become obedient to the faith, you become a believer
- h. What causes believers to believe? Mighty signs and miracles
- i. Special miracles make believers

I Cor 2:1-5

Eph 4:11-12

Rom 15:18-19