

Introduction- **GOD USES THE WRATH OF UNGODLY MEN TO WORK HIS OWN GLORY AND THIS RIOT WORKED GOOD!**

1. Some times the way God works out His will is most humerous - this one is almost slapstick
2. If we watch today, we see the same things occuring, differing in time and degree
3. Let's take a good look at the revival in Corinth, the opposition, and the judgment against the troublemakers by the general populace that is amusing

I.- **A REVIVAL IN THE CITY OF CORINTH ACTS 18:1-11**

A large team of evangelists and missionaries went to work- a revival was inevitable

SALVATION WAS OFFERED TO ALL WHO WOULD RECIEVE CHRIST -

1. Priscilla and Aquila were joined by Paul (2) who persuaded Jews and Greeks (4)
2. Silas and Timotheus joined them and Paul opened up more-(5) "Jesus -Christ" -omitt italics
3. You can be sure that Paul reasoned from the Scriptures, and showed the need for Salvation

B. **BUT THE JEWS OPPOSED THEMSELVES AND REJECTED THE MESSAGE OF JESUS AS CHRIST** do you?

1. Not much problem with scripture until some preacher applies it- then they opposed themselves/
2. When the Jews blasphemed, paul shook his raiment **wow** (6) We would criticize him today
3. Paul declared that he had delivered his soul, and would go to Gentiles (but still saved Jews)

C. **OPPOSITION DID NOT STOP THE EVANGELISTIC SERVICES FROM SUCCESS**

1. Paul set up preaching next door to Synagogue-v.7 Justins not called saved, but probably was
2. Jews were still saved- Crispus, ruler of Synagogue believed v.8 and many others- & baptized
3. The Lord gave Paul a clear "go ahead" v.9,16, and Paul stayed a long time ministering

II.- **LEGAL OPPOSITION AGAINST THE WORK OF CHRIST AROSE IN THE CITY**

Ungodly men always want to make it against the law to serve or preach Christ- watch out!

A. **THE JEWS MADE INSURRECTION BY CONCENT TO INVOLVE PAUL LEGALLY ~~W/L~~ v.12**

1. Paul beat them in arguments over the scripture, and at the judgement seat of success-
2. They were angry- even thier leader got converted, similiar pictures as to Jews against Christ
3. They made insurrection- this means riot- Mob rule, riot courts, etc are not the right way.

B. **THE CHARGE WAS TREASON AGAINST THE LAWS OF ROME v. 13** though not expressed here- it was else

1. Jewish religion was not the legal authority, it was just tolerated- no law here. where
2. To be against the law, it had to involve Roman law- this was often the charge- against Christ
3. If Paul were openly accused of treason, his life was in jeopardy- Christ's was.

B. **GALLIO GAVE HIS JUDGEMENT, THEN LET THE MOB ACTION DEAL JUSTICE v. 14-16**

1. Gallio was new- the brother of Philosophet Seneca, who wrote that he was well loved by all
2. Rom 13:4 says that the Sword is to be a terror to evil doers- not to good - Gallio knew law.
3. Paul couldn't even speak- Gallio threw the case out of court- so should a few of our courts.

Pilate would have been better off if he had done this- Gallio was not sympathetic -Jews.

III.- **FOR ONCE THE GENERAL POPULACE RIOTED THE RIGHT DIRECTION**

Don't think that riot is justified- but see the humor of this

A. **THE GREEKS, NOT JEWS OR CHRISTIANS, DELT OUT JUSTICE * NOT LEGAL, BUT FAIR V. 17** *arguing makes onlookers mad to - make in atlantic city - arguing - immediately go back to that - notes - do you argue in court?*

1. They probably hated the Jews and were looking for an opportunity- Galleo's contempt did it
2. A person dragging someone else into court must face some responsibility too! *(don't accuse me - unfairly -)*
3. They mobed Sosthenes and beat him, while Gallio looked the other way (no hard hurt-just a

B. **GOD OFTEN USES THE WORLD TO WHIP THE DISSOBEDIENT PERSON** good strapping-served fight)

1. A divine principle here- whom God would destroy, He first makes angry -Jews were real mad
2. I've watched God use the world in general to shame and punish backslidden Christians -
3. Troublesome people get served trouble- In the OT God often used ungadly nation to punish

C. **THE JUDGE LOOKED THE OTHER WAY (Does God ever do this?)** *(his dissobedient nation.)*

1. If the beating were serious, Gallio would have been unfare, but it does not tell it.
2. Somestimes God's judgement is to withdraw His protection just a little while- we get burnt!
3. If you don't accept the fruit of revival, you will wind up fighting against it- and if you fight against God, He just might let you try to get along on your own for while

Concl. **WHAT IF GOD APPLIES THESE SAME PRINCIPLES IN THIS CHURCH* IN THIS AGE?**

1. If you hear the gospel and believe, you will be saved - now is a good time to do that.
2. If you grow in grace this involves Baptism- Membership- Service - now as it did then!
3. If you stop growing in grace you will soon fight gface, and earn a whipping-

Don't oppose yourself, or God might let you bear the responsibility of your actions!

Inv. **Come to Jesus , plead His Grace, claim His Forgiveness, serve Him Faithfully**

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