

TURNING THE WORLD UPSIDE DOWN

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What does it mean to turn the world Upside down?

Covenant Family Chapel

Acts 17:6

October 29, 2023

<https://www.covenantfamilychapel.org/sermons/>

Introduction

As we enter the last part of the year, we would like to recap our 7-year theme – turning the world upside down. We want to make sure we understand what it means, and we are gradually touching lives.

Today's Focus:

What does it mean to turn the world Upside down?

The theme is found in **Acts 17:6**

This statement was an accusation. To fully understand its implications, let us explore what it means.

The Greek word translated “turned the world upside down” is the word: ἀναστατόω (Strong's #387), transliterated “anastatóō”.

This word means causing people to be unsettled in their allegiance to their civil or spiritual rulers.

So what does it mean to us? To fully understand their accusation which I believe is a compliment in disguise let me walk you through a few verses of scripture to help put it in context.

When You read the following verse, you would see Paul and Barnabas did something that warranted the conclusion that these are they who have turned the world upside down.

1. **Acts 13:6-12** – they preached the word to a governor and confronted a sorcerer who stood to keep the governor from the faith.
2. **Acts 13:44-45, 49-50** – they preached the word to an entire city and confronted Jews who were religious to keep people from hearing the truth of the kingdom.
3. **Acts 14:1-7** - they preached the word to and confronted the people who did want to accept the message about the kingdom of God and Jesus Christ.
4. **Acts 14:8-19** - they preached the word and were stoned by Jews from Antioch and Iconium.

5. **Acts 16:16-23** - they confronted a demonic power and set a girl free destroying the economic gain of those who stood to profit.
6. **Acts 17:1-7** – In Thessalonica, they preached about Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection.

When they arrived in Thessalonica, the Thessalonians gave them a characterization: These men who have turned the world upside down have come here also.

What does it mean?

1. These men who have changed and influenced our way of life have come here also.
2. These men who have affected a life enslaved by the system have come here also.
3. These men are causing people to be unsettled in their allegiance to their civil or spiritual rulers have come here also.

The call to turn the world upside down

1. Is a call to **change, and influence people's way of life.**

2. It is a call to affect those who are enslaved by the systems of this world.
3. It is a call to challenge the established systems without compromise.
4. It is a call to influence political leaders and deal with those who stand in the way.

Growth Group Discussion
For the week of October 29, 2023

WHAT'S YOUR HIGHLIGHT?

As we enter the last part of the year, we would like to recap our 7-year theme – turning the world upside down. We want to make sure we understand what it means, and we are gradually touching lives.

WHAT'S YOUR STORY?

Like Paul and his companions, have you been given a nickname because of the lives you have affected?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. In what verse of scripture is our 7-year theme found?
2. What is the focus for the year 2023?
3. When Paul and Silas arrived in Thessalonica, the Thessalonians gave them a characterization: these men who have turned the world upside down have come here also.

The following scriptures show their journey from Antioch to Thessalonica. READ the following scripture text and find out what happened as they traveled and why they were called that in Thessalonica.

- i. **Acts 13:6-12**
 - ii. **Acts 13:44-45, 49-50**
 - iii. **Acts 14:1-7**
 - iv. **Acts 14:8-19**
 - v. **Acts 16:16-23**
 - vi. **Acts 17:1-7.**
4. Based on your reading what does it mean to turn the world upside down today?
 5. Check your answers with the section titled “**The call to turn the world upside down**” in the notes above in **RED** and **BLUE**.