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## Am I A Good Berean?

### *Acts 17:10-15*

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*Purpose:* To understand the importance of being strong in our faith

#### Acts 17:10-15

10 As soon as it was night, the brothers sent Paul and Silas away to Berea. On arriving there, they went to the Jewish synagogue.

11 Now the Bereans were of more noble character than the Thessalonians, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true.

12 Many of the Jews believed, as did also a number of prominent Greek women and many Greek men.

13 When the Jews in Thessalonica learned that Paul was preaching the word of God at Berea, they went there too, agitating the crowds and stirring them up.

14 The brothers immediately sent Paul to the coast, but Silas and Timothy stayed at Berea.

15 The men who escorted Paul brought him to Athens and then left with instructions for Silas and Timothy to join him as soon as possible.

NIV

In society today, there is a lot of information. The library and the internet are loaded with information. That's good and bad. With multitudes of information, comes false information as well as truth. The Bereans seemed to understand that all information had to be challenged by God's Word.

The Bereans were considered more noble in character. Let's look into the scriptures and learn what we need to be in order to carry such a noble title.

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1. What kinds of philosophies do you encounter as you attempt to communicate the gospel in our modern world?

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**Question 1.** Look at the modern-day philosophies that are thriving in our world. Consider such things as the New Age, Eastern mysticism, Satan worship, the occult world, humanism, liberalism and others.

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2. We find in some of the modern-day spiritualist attributes, things that sound Godly, but when looked up in the scripture, (The Whole Scripture) it's usually against the whole truth.

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### **3. Let's look at six attributes of a good Berean**

1. God Fearing
2. Eager to hear the message
3. Receptive to the truth
4. (Daily) examined the scripture to make sure that what they heard was truth. (Prove it).
5. They believed regardless of their social status in the community. (Decisive)
6. Protective and bold (bold regardless of the surrounding conditions)

\*\*\* Berea was about 50 miles southwest of Thessalonica

Ponder:

Receptive, but influence by the scripture and not the novelty of smooth speech.

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### **Am I a good Berean?**

1. Do I Reverence God? Am I God fearing?
2. Am I eager to hear messages that pertain to God?
3. Am I receptive to the truth? Do I receive it?
4. Will I examine the scripture even though the preacher makes sense?
5. Having or showing the ability to make decisions quickly and effectively (am I Decisive)?
6. Will I stand for what I believe, even if it cost me friends, social influence or status, or even place you in possible danger?

**Let's Strengthen Where We Lack And Stand As Our Faith Dictates.**