

# Jesus' Message Receives Mixed Reviews, Yet God's Grace Carries Us Through

Acts 14:1-28

## Jesus' gospel evokes three emotional responses:

- 1) Actively \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus and \_\_\_\_\_ His people (v.2, 4-5, 19).
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_ His message.
  - b. Stir up opposition to His people.
  - c. Pursue and \_\_\_\_\_ His representatives.
  
- 2) Passionately \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus and \_\_\_\_\_ in His work (v.1, 4, 6-10, 14-18, 20-28).
  - a. Eagerly \_\_\_\_\_ the gospel.
  - b. Boldly \_\_\_\_\_ the truth.
  - c. Desperately \_\_\_\_\_ on the Lord for His words and works (Jn. 14:8-14).
  - d. Passionately \_\_\_\_\_ to Jesus.
  - e. Persevere through the power of God's \_\_\_\_\_.
  - f. Strengthen and \_\_\_\_\_ others in Him.
  - g. \_\_\_\_\_ reliable leaders to do His work.

- 3) Superficially \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus' offer and \_\_\_\_\_ His message (v.6-8, 11-13).

## Applying God's Word to Life

- 1) Which side of the great divide do you find yourself on: Vikings or Packers? Why?
- 2) What are some of the ways that you see people "stirred up" and "embittered" against Jesus' message or messengers?
- 3) What are some examples of "vain things" we may associate with Jesus that stand in the way of true surrender to Him?
- 4) What are some of the things that we include in the gospel that are actually our own imports from previously held cultural beliefs?
- 5) When did you first come to embrace Jesus as your savior?
- 6) How and when do you personally engage in his work?

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## Jesus' gospel evokes three emotional responses:

- 1) Actively **reject** Jesus and **oppose** His people (v.2, 4-5, 19).
  - a. **Disbelieve** His message.
  - b. Stir up opposition to His people.
  - c. Pursue and **persecute** His representatives.
  
- 2) Passionately **embrace** Jesus and **engage** in His work (v.1, 4, 6-10, 14-18, 20-28).
  - a. Eagerly **accept** the gospel.
  - b. Boldly **proclaim** the truth.
  - c. Desperately **rely** on the Lord for His words and works (Jn. 14:8-14).
  - d. Passionately **point** to Jesus.
  - e. Persevere through the power of God's **grace**.
  - f. Strengthen and **equip** others in Him.
  - g. **Empower** reliable leaders to do His work.

- 3) Superficially **accept** Jesus' offer and **distort** His message (v.6-8, 11-13).

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