

3. Three things to _____ this passage of Scripture.

1. The _____ of misunderstanding is _____.
2. The _____ for misunderstanding is _____.
3. The _____ to misunderstanding is always _____.

*“Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable in Thy sight, O Lord, my rock and
my Redeemer.”*

Psalm 19:14 (NASB)

WHEN MISUNDERSTANDING TAKES CONTROL

The Acts of the Apostles - Part 48

Acts 21:17-39

June 28, 2009

*“To be great is to be misunderstood, but being misunderstood
does not mean being great!”*

Emerson

*“The person who is anybody, who does anything, is surely
going to be misunderstood. The final proof of greatness lies in
being able to endure misunderstanding without resentment.”*

Elbert Hubbard

1. Paul’s _____ at _____.

*“And when we had come to Jerusalem, the brethren received us
gladly. And now the following day Paul went in with us to
James, and all the elders were present. And after he had greeted
them, he began to relate one by one the things which God had
done among the Gentiles through his ministry.”*

Acts 21:17-19 (NASB)

*“And when they heard it they began glorifying God; and they
said to him, ‘You see, brother, how many thousands there are
among the Jews of those who have believed, and they are all
zealous for the Law...’”* Acts 21:20 (NASB)

*“...and they have been told about you, that you are teaching all
the Jews who are among the Gentiles to forsake Moses, telling
them not to circumcise their children nor to walk according to
the customs.”* Acts 21:21 (NASB)

*“What, then, is to be done? They will certainly hear that you
have come. Therefore do this that we tell you. We have four
men who are under a vow; take them and purify yourself along
with them, and pay their expenses in order that they may shave
their heads; and all will know that there is nothing to the things*

which they have been told about you, but that you yourself also walk orderly, keeping the Law. But concerning the Gentiles who have believed, we wrote, having decided that they should abstain from meat sacrificed to idols and from blood and from what is strangled and from fornication.’” Acts 21:22-25 (NASB)

“Then Paul took the men, and the next day, purifying himself along with them, went into the temple, giving notice of the completion of the days of purification, until the sacrifice was offered for each one of them.” Acts 21:26 (NASB)

“For though I am free from all men, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win the more. And to the Jews I became as a Jew, so that I might win Jews; to those who are under the Law, as under the Law, though not being myself under the Law, that I might win those who are under the Law; to those who are without law, as without law, though not being without the law of God but under the law of Christ, that I might win those who are without law. To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak; I have become all things to all men, that I may by all means save some. And I do all things for the sake of the gospel, that I may become a fellow partaker of it.” 1 Corinthians 9:19-23 (NASB)

2. Paul is _____.

“And when the seven days were almost over, the Jews from Asia, upon seeing him in the temple, began to stir up all the multitude and laid hands on him, crying out, ‘Men of Israel, come to our aid! This is the man who preaches to all men everywhere against our people, and the Law, and this place...’”

Acts 21:27-28b (NASB)

Their tactics:

- _____
- _____

“...and besides he has even brought Greeks into the temple and had defiled this holy place.” Acts 21:28c (NASB)

“For they had previously seen Trophimus the Ephesian in the city with him, and they supposed that Paul had brought him into the temple.” Acts 21:29 (NASB)

“And all the city was aroused, and the people rushed together; and taking hold of Paul, they dragged him out of the temple, and immediately the doors were shut.” Acts 21:30 (NASB)

“Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything is worthy of praise, let you mind dwell on these things.”

Philippians 4:8 (NASB)

“And while they were seeking to kill him, a report came up to the commander of the Roman cohort that all Jerusalem was in confusion. And at once he took along some soldiers and centurions, and ran down to them; and when they saw the commander and the soldiers, they stopped beating Paul. Then the commander came up and took hold of him, and ordered him to be bound with two chains; and he began asking who he was and what he had done. But among the crowd some were shouting one thing and some another, and when he could not find out the facts on account of the uproar, he ordered him to be brought into the barracks.” Acts 21:31-34 (NASB)

“And when he got to the stairs, it so happened that he was carried by the soldiers because of the violence of the mob; for the multitude of the people kept following behind, crying out, ‘Away with him!’” Acts 21:35-36 (NASB)

“And as Paul was about to be brought into the barracks, he said to the commander, ‘May I say something to you?’ And he said, ‘Do you know Greek?’” Acts 21:37 (NASB)

“Then you are not the Egyptian who some time ago stirred up a revolt and let the four thousand men of the Assassins out into the wilderness?” Acts 21:38 (NASB)

“But Paul said, ‘I am a Jew of Tarsus in Cilicia, a citizen of no insignificant city; and I beg you, allow me to speak to the people.’” Acts 21:39 (NASB)