"A Tale of Three Cities"

*Map of Paul's 2nd journey

*Pictures of Thesslonica

- I. Thessalonica Resisting the Word
 - A. Paul presented the gospel
 - 1. He answered their <u>questions</u>
 - 2. He explained the scriptures

"You diligently study the Scriptures because you think that by them you possess eternal life. These are the Scriptures that testify about me." (John 5:39)

- 3. He gave them evidence of Jesus' death and resurrection
- B. Some who <u>believed in Jesus</u>

"We ought always to thank God for you, brothers, and rightly so, because your faith is growing more and more, and the love every one of you has for each other is increasing." (2 Thessalonians 1:3)

C. Some of the people started a riot

"If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own. As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world. That is why the world hates you." (John 15:19)

*Map of Paul's 2nd journey

- II. Berea Receiving the Word
 - A. Paul presented the gospel
 - 1. They examined the <u>Scriptures</u>
 - 2. Many of them <u>believed in Jesus</u>
 - 3. The opposition started new riots

*Map of Paul's 2nd missionary journey

*Pictures of Athens

- III. Athens Ridiculing the Word
 - A. Paul was disturbed by the idolatry
 - B. Paul presented the gospel

- C. Paul shared about the true God
 - 1. God is the <u>creator</u> of all things

"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." (Genesis 1:1)

2. God is the provider of all things

"Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows." (James 1:17)

- 3. God is the <u>ruler</u> of all things
- 4. God is the source of <u>salvation</u>
- 5. God is the judge of all mankind
- D. Many responded with indifference and ridicule
- E. Some believed in <u>Jesus</u>