

## **SCCC – THE NOBLE CITIZENS OF BEREIA**

### **S - Scriptures**

“Now the Berean Jews were of more noble character than those in Thessalonica, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true.” Acts 17: 11

### **C – Consideration**

Paul had to flee from Thessalonica after facing very strong opposition in that city; nonetheless, he still made some disciples who accepted the message. Arriving In the town of Berea, he found a group of Jews receptive to hear what he had to say. They were not scared to give Paul a chance to share and prove in Old Testament prophecies that Jesus was the Messiah, Lord, and Savior. They were called noble, because they enthusiastically received the teaching, as the apostle showed in the Torah, Psalms, and the prophets about the person and the work of Jesus. Obviously, if what Paul was preaching was not true, they simply could expel him from their Synagogue; however, “As a result, many of them believed, as did also a number of prominent Greek women and many Greek men.”

### **C- Commitment**

The Bereans didn't have the complete collection of biblical canonical books as we have today. But they were a hungry group of people, who took seriously their religious duties to understand God's revelation concerning eternal life. I am wondering if I was a believer of Thessalonica and I had read the words of Luke what I would think. Probably I would be ashamed or possibly jealous of the Bereans as they were praised by their character, while we were criticized for our resistance towards God's message, perhaps caused by pride, fear, or laziness. The two cities represent the attitude of my heart concerning how I am responding to the Holy Spirit who challenges me to eagerly look at the Scriptures and to obey the command of the Lord, “To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, “If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” John 8: 31-32. The Bereans wanted to be free from the bondage of sin, of Satan, and of the world. They got it by becoming aware of the truth.

### **C – Call**

My God, I pray that I might be a person of noble character. I pray that my soul will be hungry for things that are eternal, that I would repent from times when I act like some in Thessalonica, and in humility, I would study and meditate the Scriptures daily. I pray also, for the community of believers that they might be ready to resist what isn't true and faithfully check the Word as the Bereans did. In Jesus' name, I pray. Amen.