

## “Thou Art Beside Thyself”

### I. Introduction:

A. Being a disciple our Lord means we are different, separate from the world (**Acts 2:40-41**, **Galatians 1:4**, and **Titus 2:11-14**).

1. As in Jesus prayer concerning the disciples, being in the world but not of the world (**John 17:14-17**).
2. Think about what it means to come out from among them and be separate (**II Corinthians 6:14-7:1**).

B. Taking a stand for the Lord will cause people to look at you in unfavorable ways (i.e. **Acts 4:1-13**).

1. You're considered strange (**I Peter 4:1-5**).
2. Even Jesus was thought to have been “beside Himself” [out of wits; insane] and even having Beelzebub (**Mark 3:13-23**).

### II. Body: Are You Willing To Be Identified as Crazy (**Acts 26:1-32**)? \*See vs. 24

A. Consider the bold man Elijah (**I Kings 18:1-46**).

1. It is impressive what he did in standing against the prophets, but think of the risk of standing against a king (**Proverbs 16:14**; **19:12**).
2. How strong was he when he felt alone (**I Kings 19:1-4**; **19:9-18**)?

B. Consider the bold man Peter (**Acts 4:18-21**; **4:31** and a Scripture referenced earlier: **Acts 4:13**).

1. He would draw a sword to defend Jesus (**John 18:10-11**).
2. He boldly told the Lord He would never be offended because of Jesus (**Matthew 26:31-35**).
3. However, when Jesus was no longer by his side... **Matthew 26:69-75**

C. Think about the significance of being one who doesn't conform (**Romans 12:1-2**).

1. Not following the crowd (**Exodus 23:2**).
2. The ability to refrain (**Proverbs 1:10-19**).
3. The willingness to sit alone (**Psalms 26:4-5** and **Jeremiah 15:17**).
4. How strong (**Ephesians 6:10**) do you have to be to truly say and mean “though none go with me, I still will follow Jesus” (**Matthew 26:55-56**)?

III. Conclusion: The real crazies, are those whom have not/do not, obey the Gospel of our Lord (**II Thessalonians 1:7-9** and **I Peter 4:17-19**).