

ATTACKING THE WORK OF GOD / *Acts 17:13*

The Bible is full of examples of people who, operating under the seemingly purest of motives, undermine the very work of God. Look at just a few:

People	Reference	Actions
Miriam and Aaron	Numbers 12	asked, “Has the Lord spoken only through Moses?”
The men of Korah	Numbers 16	rose up against Moses, accusing him of setting himself above them. It was a rebellion—refusal to follow God’s ordained leadership.
Abimelech	Judges 9	manipulated his kinsmen to overthrow Gideon’s legacy after murdering all but one of Gideon’s sons.
Absalom	2 Samuel 15	met people at the city gate, bad-mouthed his father, King David, and “stole the hearts of the men of Israel.”
Troublemakers	Ezra 4	shut down construction on the temple for fifteen years with their false accusations.
Sanballat and Tobiah	Nehemiah 4 and 6	kept trying to get Nehemiah off the wall and on a retreat in order to stop the building of the Jerusalem wall.

While the motives vary in all these examples, and some are not known at all, envy seems to be the common one, envy and a desire to control. Such people have been and will always be around. The keepers of the Light must not allow them to stop the work. Paul certainly didn’t.