

BIBLE STUDY.

Third Missionary Journey.

Part two

Acts 19:1- 41;

Paul's two years three months
at Ephesus.



BIBLE STUDY.

Third Missionary Journey.

Acts 18:23 to 21:26;

Antioch in Syria

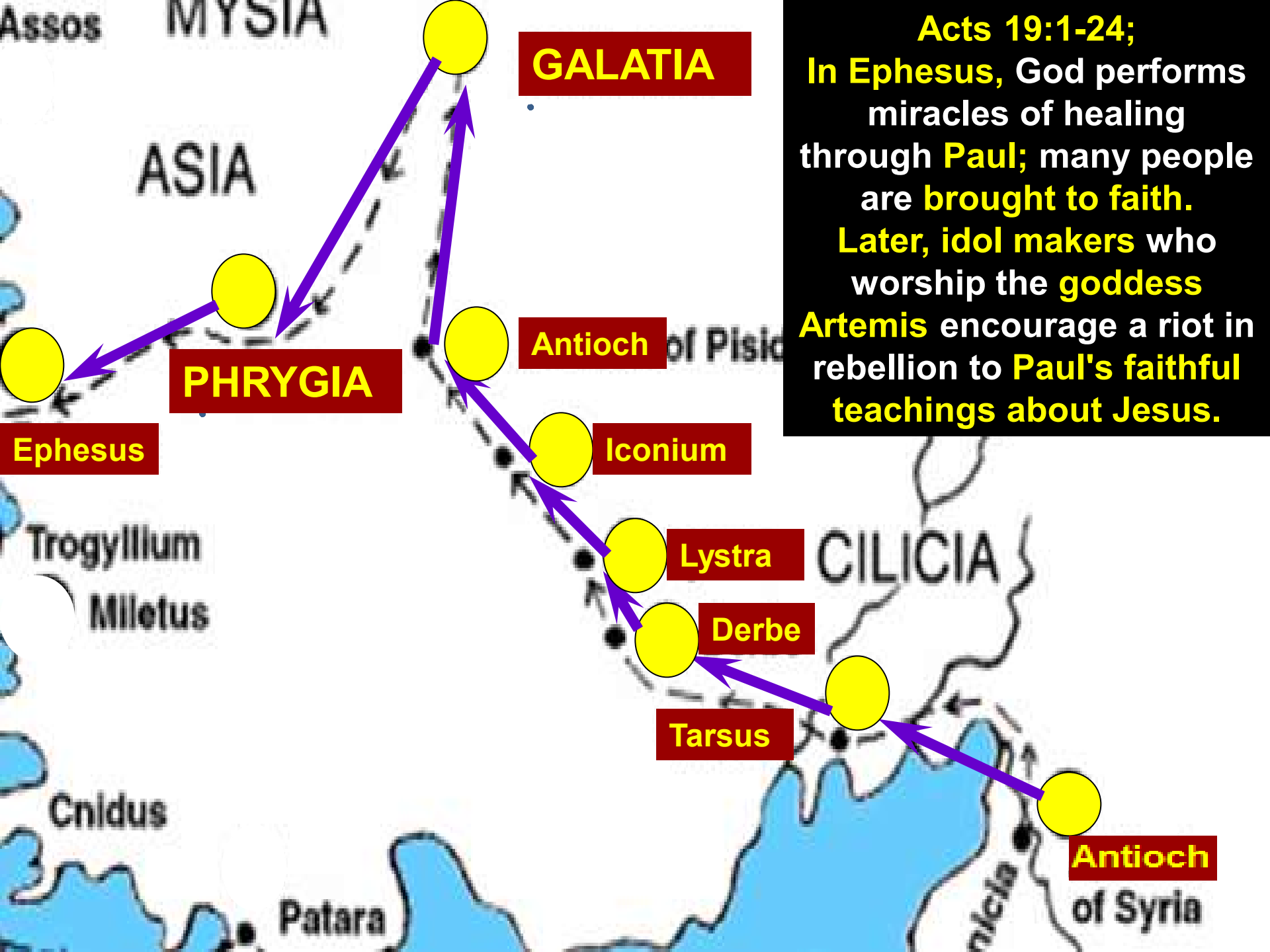
To Jerusalem.

Total 2,515 Miles

1,190 by Sea / 1,325 by Land.

Duration - 4 years.





GALATIA

PHRYGIA

Antioch

Iconium

Lystra

Derbe

Tarsus

Antioch

of Syria

Acts 19:1-24;
In Ephesus, God performs miracles of healing through Paul; many people are brought to faith. Later, idol makers who worship the goddess Artemis encourage a riot in rebellion to Paul's faithful teachings about Jesus.

Acts 19:1; “And it happened, while Apollos was at Corinth, that Paul, having passed through the upper regions, came to Ephesus. And finding some disciples.”

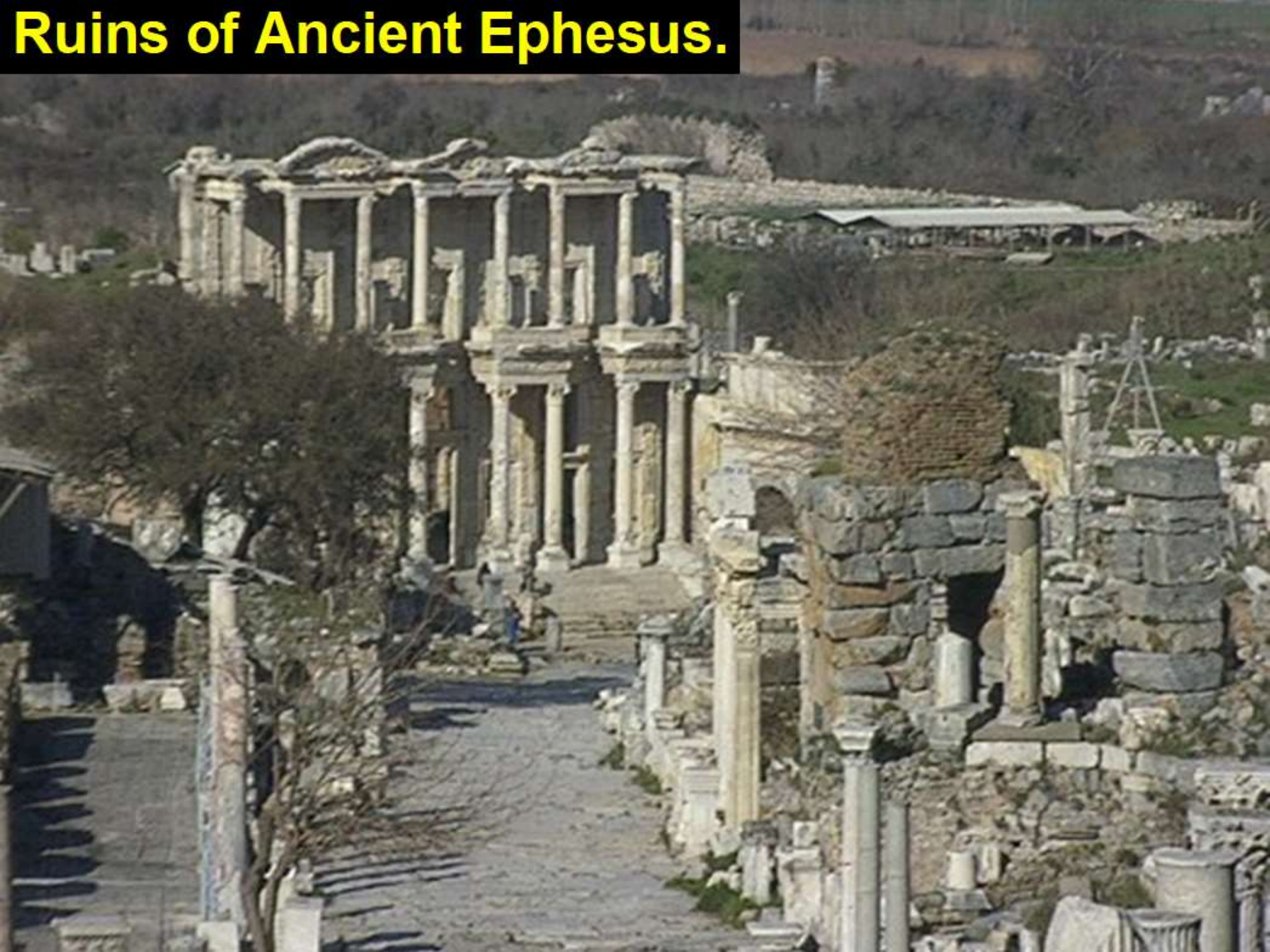
Paul has set out on his third missionary journey.

This will be the last journey recorded in the Book of Acts unless one counts his trip to Rome.

The Journey to Rome was as a prisoner. Yet Paul being Paul he will take every opportunity to share his faith in Jesus. If so, that would be counted as his fourth Journey.

In the episode recorded in Acts 19, Paul goes to Ephesus and works there preaching and teaching for **two years and three months.**

Ruins of Ancient Ephesus.



Acts 19:1; “And it happened, while Apollos was at Corinth, that Paul, having passed through the upper regions, came to Ephesus. And finding some disciples.”

**Paul arrived in Ephesus but
Apollos had already left for Corinth.
Therefore, the two men missed each other.**

**When Priscilla and Aquila told Paul about Apollos,
Paul's heart must have leaped for joy, for
another young man dedicated to serving Christ.**

**In the following
years Paul would learn to love
the young man and to long for his companionship
and ministry. (1 Cor 16:12; Titus 3:13;)**



**The Famous Theatre
in Ephesus
is in Background.**

Acts 19:1; “And it happened, while Apollos was at Corinth, that Paul, having passed through the upper regions, came to Ephesus. And finding some disciples.”

As Paul **preached and taught in Ephesus**, we notice **his commitment** to reach men with the gospel of salvation.

He was a **messenger of salvation**, so he focused his whole life upon sharing that message with those who were lost, hopeless, and doomed by sin.

Luke mentioned that he found some disciples in the city, but the question is:-

Who and what were they Disciples of?

They are disciples of John the Baptist, remember this man was the one who came to prepare the way there for he had to be good and eloquent. and **he made many disciples**. Isaiah 40:3;

Acts 19:1; “And it happened, while Apollos was at Corinth, that Paul, having passed through the upper regions, came to Ephesus. And finding some disciples.”

Remember Apollos had been preaching in and around Ephesus before he went to Corinth.

He knew only the baptism of John until Priscilla and Aquila took him aside and taught him the way of the Lord more completely.

An inference we might make is that before Apollos had been adequately taught, he might have preached John's message about **the coming Jesus** to these 12 disciples.

Paul is going to **explain the difference** between the **baptism of John** and the **baptism of Christ** or as it is often called **Christian baptism**.

Acts 19:2; “he said to them,
“**Did you receive the Holy Spirit
when you believed?**” So they said to him,
“We have not so much as heard
whether there is a Holy Spirit.”

Acts 19:3; “And he said to them,
“**Into what then were you baptized?**”
So they said, “**Into John's baptism.**”

Acts 19:4; “Paul said, “**John's baptism was
a baptism of repentance. He told the people
to believe in the one coming after him,
that is, in Jesus.**”

Acts 19:2; “he said to them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?”
So they said to him,
“We have not so much as heard whether there is a Holy Spirit.”

“Did you receive the HS?”

We need to be aware that this is a very disputed passage, and at least **three major opinions** have been advanced in an attempt to explain it.

Some think Paul has in mind the baptism of the HS.

This theory is not true because the **baptism in the HS** was **a promise** from **Jesus to the apostles** and no one else. John 16:13; Acts 1:4-5; Some of the gifts it brought to the Apostles were **a remembrance of being with Jesus and all that he taught and access to all truth.**

**Acts 19:2; “he said to them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?”
So they said to him,
“We have not so much as heard whether there is a Holy Spirit.”**

**A second attempted explanation
makes reference to the Spiritual Gifts.**

**Many believe that this is the best interpretation
because of the fact that in verse 6
it mentions the miraculous gifts of languages
and prophesying.**

Acts 19:2; “he said to them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?”
So they said to him,
“We have not so much as heard whether there is a Holy Spirit.”

**We come now to the interpretation
that it is most likely correct.**

**That Paul is asking if they received the gift
of indwelling Spirit when they were saved.**

**In Acts 2:38; When a person repents and is baptized,
Peter said that there were two things are promised:-
Forgiveness of sins and
receiving the gift of the indwelling Holy Spirit.**

**This promise is for all Christians:-
“As many as the Lord shall call.” Acts 2:39;**

Acts 19:2; “he said to them, **"Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?"**
So they said to him,
"We have not so much as heard whether there is a Holy Spirit."

This passage presents several important lessons on salvation. We need to keep these in mind as we go about the task of proclaiming the glorious gospel of salvation in and through Jesus

The fact that they are called **“disciples”** (v. 1) and the statement **“when you believed”** imply they were believers in Jesus as the Christ.

“Did you believe,” is equal to:
“at the time you were baptized” as verse 3 shows.

Acts 19:2; “he said to them, **"Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?"**
So they said to him,
"We have not so much as heard whether there is a Holy Spirit."

In fact when **Paul's language** in these verses is harmonized, it is seen that: **“believing,”** and **“being baptized”** and **“receiving the HS”** are regarded as part of the same transaction.

HOW did Paul connect the fact that **these men hadn't heard of the Holy Spirit** with the fact that **they hadn't received Christian baptism?**

Because Christian baptism is into the name of the Father, Son, and HOLY SPIRIT and these men should have been taught that before they were baptised into Christ.

“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.” Matt 28:19;

Because Christian baptism results in one receiving the gift of the HOLY SPIRIT (the normal indwelling), and these men should have been taught that BEFORE they were baptised into Christ!

“Peter replied, “Each one of you must turn from sin, turn back to God, and be immersed into the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; then you also shall receive this gift, the Holy Spirit.

Acts 2:38;

Acts 19:2; “he said to them, **"Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?"**“

So they said to him,

"We have not so much as heard whether there is a Holy Spirit."

They are not saying that the HS does not exist!

What they are saying is:-

“They haven’t heard whether the HS is given.”

So this tells us that these men were following the baptism of John which was only for the Jewish people before Christ’s death.

What the twelve men are saying is that they were not aware that at the moment of their immersion something was to be given to those who had been immersed.

Acts 19:2; “We have not so much as heard whether there is a Holy Spirit.”

The Holy Spirit (Ghost)
is mentioned over **200 times**
in the New Testament and
baptism about **80 times**.



Why do we talk **so much**
about **baptism** but **not as much**
about **the Holy Spirit** today?

Acts 19:2; “he said to them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?”
So they said to him,
“We have not so much as heard whether there is a Holy Spirit.”

The indwelling gift of the Holy Spirit is received only when the person understands what God by His grace has achieved through the Death, burial and resurrection of Jesus.

And we RESPOND to God’s grace by believing, repenting, confessing and being buried with Christ by immersion.

Acts 2:38; 1 Peter 3:21; Romans 6:3-6; 1 Cor 15:1-4;

Acts 19:3; “And he said to them, “Into what then were you baptized?”
So they said, **“Into John's baptism.”**

In to what were you baptized?

**As Christians we have the responsibility
to ask people what kind of baptism they received.**

**There are 8 baptisms mentioned in
the New Testament and many people get confused
as to which applies to them in their situation.
See study on Acts 2.**

**There are many baptisms that are not valid today
and we must make sure that people are obeying
the right baptism, the one Christ commanded us
to obey, to enable us to become Christians.**

Matt 28:19-20; Ephesians 4:4-5;

Acts 19:3; “And he said to them, “Into what then were you baptized?”
So they said, **“Into John's baptism.”**

Remember the previous question,
“did you receive the HS when you were baptized?”

The person will **only**
receive this indwelling gift when they are saved.

For people **to receive** this gift they **‘MUST’**
be immersed in Jesus baptism.
Which was commanded after His resurrection.
Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:16;

They had **only** been baptized
in John's baptism
that was the answer given to Paul.

Acts 19:4; “Then Paul said, “John indeed baptized with a baptism of repentance, saying to the people that they should believe on Him who would come after him, that is, on Jesus.”

Johns baptism according to Paul was unto Repentance. He was telling people **to turn and be converted** to the real person who has the power to save, that is Jesus.
Matt 3:11; John 1:15, 29, 30; Acts 1:5; 11:16; 13:24-25;

Isn't Christian baptism a baptism of repentance too?

We need to understand what is meant by **“repentance”** in this context.

Repentance means a necessary change of mind.

Acts 19:4; “Then Paul said, “John indeed baptized with a baptism of repentance, saying to the people that they should believe on Him who would come after him, that is, on Jesus.”

The Jews needed a change in their thinking in order to accept their Messiah.

John's baptism was a part of that necessary change. It also meant giving up sinful ways and **become good Jews ready for Jesus their King Coming to set up His kingdom.**

Those who were **baptized by John** were told that **John's baptism** was for the **forgiveness** of sins **valid only if they believed on Him Who CAME AFTER John.**



REPENTANCE



Acts 19:4; “Then Paul said, “John indeed baptized with a baptism of repentance, saying to the people that they should believe on Him who would come after him, that is, on Jesus.”

“Repentance” is a translation of the Greek,
“metanoia.” “Meta” means “change;”
“noia” means “mind.”

Any change of mind from what is not correct thinking to what is right thinking is **repentance** as defined in the Bible.

The Jews to whom John the Baptizer preached his **“baptism of repentance,”** needed to **prepare** their minds **to accept the change of covenant and laws** God planned to introduce through His Son.



“And so John came, baptizing in the desert region and preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.” Mark 1:4;

Acts 19:4; “Then Paul said, “John indeed baptized with a baptism of repentance, saying to the people that they should believe on Him who would come after him, that is, on Jesus.”

**John's baptism was BEFORE
the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus.**

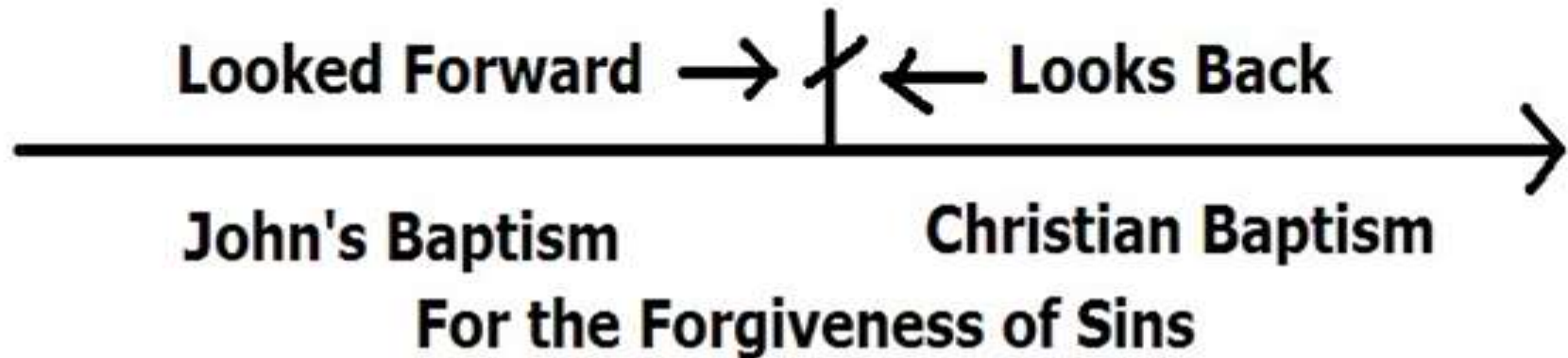
**It was not a re-enactment of those facts in a form
that could be obeyed as Christian baptism is.**

**John's baptism depended for its validity
on the person's FUTURE BELIEF in JESUS.**

**It looked FORWARD to when as the LAMB of God,
Jesus would in His later DEATH BURIAL
and RESURRECTION become the sacrifice
and pay the PRICE for mans sin.**

Acts 19:4; “Then Paul said, “John indeed baptized with a baptism of repentance, saying to the people that they should believe on Him who would come after him, that is, on Jesus.”

Two Baptisms



Repent
and be immersed
Believing on He who
would come later.

Believe, Repent
and be immersed
In the name of Jesus
and you will also
receive the indwelling gift
of the Holy Spirit.

Acts 19:4; “Then Paul said, “John indeed baptized with a baptism of repentance.”

**Christian baptism is a re-enactment
of the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus.**

**It is based on faith in Jesus that He DID
die on the cross for our sins, was buried
and raised from the dead for our justification.**

**John’s baptism looked forward
to One Who WOULD come.**

Our baptism looks back on One Who HAS come.

**The same promise of forgiveness of sins belonged
to both baptisms but the promise of the Holy Spirit
indwelling everyone who is baptized was made only
to those who are baptized into Christ (Acts 2:37-39;)
that is, after John’s baptism was no longer valid.**

Romans 6:17;

“you wholeheartedly obeyed the form of teaching to which you were entrusted.”



Acts 19:4; “Then Paul said, “John indeed baptized with a baptism of repentance, saying to the people that they should believe on Him who would come after him, that is, on Jesus.”

Romans 6:17;

“you wholeheartedly
obeyed the form of teaching
to which you were entrusted.”

The form of the death, burial and resurrection
of Jesus – **a command based on those facts**
that could be obeyed – was baptism. (Rom 6:1-4;)

Obeying this form identified them with
the blood of Jesus
which set them free from sin.
(Rom 6:18;)

Acts 19:4; “Then Paul said, “John indeed baptized with a baptism of repentance, saying to the people that they should believe on Him who would come after him, that is, on Jesus.”

There is no real confusion:- John was “**just**” preparing the people **for the one that was coming**, Jesus the Christ. **John** claimed **not to be the Messiah** on many occasions, he made that very clear.

The design of John’s preaching was to turn the people from their sins and to prepare them for the coming of the Messiah. John was not the Saviour Jesus was.

These men who only knew of the baptism of John after it had become invalid had to be baptized again.

Into the name of Jesus
for the forgiveness of their sins
and to receive the indwelling Holy Spirit.

Acts 19:5; “When they heard this, they were baptized
in the name of the Lord Jesus.”

Every honest person that is trying to do
the will of God. When they find they have been
instructed wrongly **will want to do what is right.**

When these 12 men heard that **Jesus had come.**
That **he had died** and **been resurrected.**
That **Jesus had commanded** that people
needed to believe this good news message.

And **be baptised** for the forgiveness of their sins
and to receive the indwelling Holy Spirit.

**They turn right away and obeyed
what Paul was telling them to do!**

Acts 19:5; “When they heard this, they were baptized
in the name of the Lord Jesus.”

We must be **“humble”** in heart:
They did not say:- Well this is the religion
of our parents and we will die in it.

Or that is how were taught it
and we will not change.

**Great lessons can be learned from these Ephesians.
Immediately they were baptized “in the Name of.”**

From the Greek **ONOMA**= by Authority, Power,
Orders of etc... **“baptized into relationship with.”**

Acts 19:5; “When they heard this, they were baptized
in the name of the Lord Jesus.”

To “be baptized **in The Name Of Lord Jesus.**” Acts 19:5;

To “be baptized **in the Name of Jesus Christ.**” Acts 2:38;

To “be baptized **in the Name of The Lord.**” Acts 22:16;

To “be baptized **in the Name of The Father, and
The Son and of the Holy Spirit.**” Matthew 28:18-20;

Do you see any difference?

Is there a formula that we must use
when we are baptizing someone?

People argue that if you use any other formula,
then the person must be re-baptized again.

Who are we going to obey? God or men?

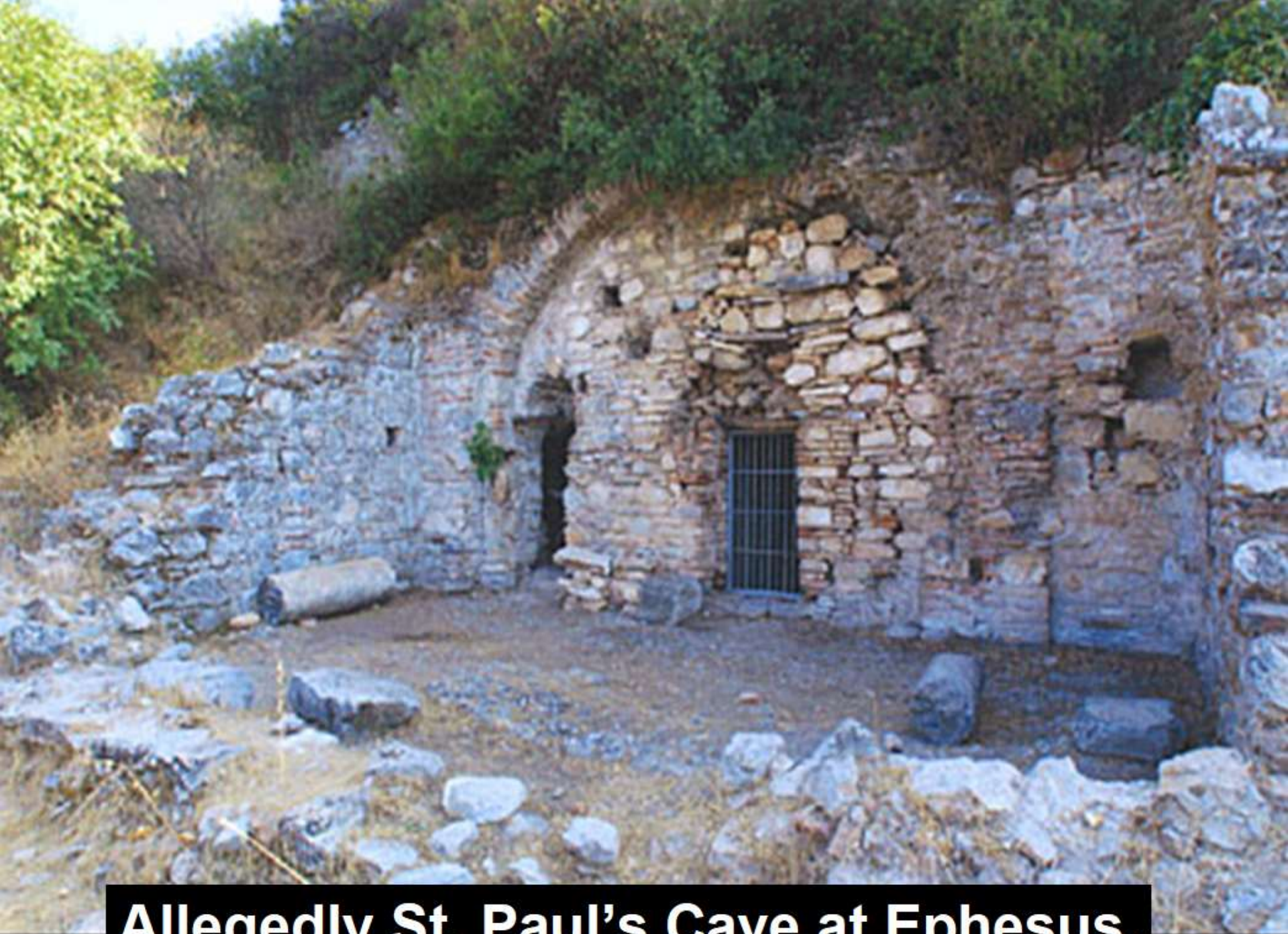
What does God say? He ordered us to do it under
the **Authority of the God Head:** Father, Son, Holy Spirit!

Acts 19:6; “And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied.”

After these **twelve men** had been **baptized into Christ** and received **the forgiveness of their sins** and **the gift of the indwelling Holy Spirit**.

Paul laid hands on them to give some miraculous gifts from the Holy Spirit to confirm the message that they had heard from Paul.

These miraculous gifts could only be given through an Apostle of Christ laying his hands on baptized believers as we saw in Acts 8;



Allegedly St. Paul's Cave at Ephesus.

Acts 19:6; “And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied.”

The **ONLY exception** to this rule
was **the Household of Cornelius.**

In that case miraculous gifts
were **GIVEN BY GOD DIRECTLY,**
before these Gentiles were saved!
before their baptism in water!
before they were forgiven of their sins!

As a sign to Peter and the Jewish Christians
to prove to them that **God was ready**
to **ACCEPT** the **Gentiles** into **His kingdom**
on an **EQUAL FOOTING** with **Jews.**

Acts 19:6; “And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied.”

Comparing with Modern Pentecostal Interpretation.

Pentecostal claim:-

This passage shows that people often become Christians at one time, but receive the “**second work of grace**” later!

What the text

actually implies:-

These men were never Christians, but disciples of John the Baptist.
(O.T. -style believers.)

**None of the twelve
had ever heard of the Spirit being given
before this day.**

Acts 19:7; “Now the men were about twelve in all.”

Do we need to know the amount of men?

Luke makes the account more valid,
saying that the number of men
on that occasion was 12.

Acts 19:8; “And he went into the synagogue and spoke boldly for three months, reasoning and persuading concerning the things of the kingdom of God.”

Do not lose sight of the fact that we are in the city of Ephesus. Paul went into the synagogue again, like in the others cities, he came to TEACH the GOSPEL OF CHRIST!

**Paul was doing this?
THREE MONTHS! REASONING!
Helping people understand the word of God.
That, is the kingdom of God.**

**Preaching the kingdom of God
is preaching the gospel of Jesus.**



Acts 19:9; “Some were hardened and did not believe, but spoke evil of the Way before the multitude, he departed from them and withdrew the disciples, reasoning daily in the school of Tyrannus.”

As was **his custom, Paul** went first to the Jews first, teaching in the synagogue. When the Jewish leaders created problems for him and the disciples.

Paul separated with the disciples from the synagogue and found a lecture hall. There **he taught the gospel daily** to all who would come and listen.

This hall must have been almost like a preacher school that trained and sent out preachers to the whole province so that everyone in the province came to know about the gospel.

Ephesus - Remains of the Hall of Tyrannus?



Acts 19:9; “Some were hardened and did not believe, but spoke evil of the Way before the multitude, he departed from them and withdrew the disciples, reasoning daily in the school of Tyrannus.”

To be **hardened**. See (Heb 3:8, 13, 15; 4:7-8;)
Many cannot believe the pure gospel
due to their unbelief.

This is the problem that is killing many people in their sins. **UNBELIEF**. Even Christians are dying!

Some were not just **full of unbelief**
but they also **spoke evil** of the “**WAY,**”
another form of saying **Christians**.



Acts 19:10; “And this continued for two years, so that all who dwelt in Asia heard the word of the Lord Jesus, both Jews and Greeks.”

Paul, talking to the Elders in Ephesus mentioned that he had worked among them for 3 years.

Acts 20:31;

First, he preached for 3 months in the synagogue (19:8;), then he stayed in the school of this man called **Tyrannus** for 2 years.

Many in Asia **heard the word of God** through the preaching of Paul.

This is what we need today.

Men of conviction, people, who regardless of the circumstances **are willing to do the will of God** by going out and **preaching the gospel of Christ**.

Acts 19:11; “Now God worked unusual miracles by the hands of Paul.”

Evidently **Paul** himself did not get out into the countryside but spent all his working hours either at Tent making or at the lecture hall.

So **God** brought His miraculous powers out to others by means of cloth objects that Paul had touched.

These were **real miracles** by the hand of Paul. Every miracle he made was unusual because this kind of miracle had not been done before.

Acts 19:11; “Now God worked unusual miracles by the hands of Paul.”

These were miracles, powers that were not regular happenings; powers that were **not the ordinary day to day experiences** of men.

They were **miracles** that were **extraordinary**; miracles that were usually not seen; that were uncommon; that were usually not performed.

Even the disciples had not witnessed such miracles, not on a regular basis.



Acts 19:12; “so that even handkerchiefs or aprons were brought from his body to the sick, and the diseases left them and the evil spirits went out of them.”

The scene perhaps sees Paul working in the tent making shop, sweating and having to change his apron and headband (handkerchief) often.

People apparently took the clothing to their sick loved ones. In touching the handkerchiefs, **they were healed of their sickness.**

It was not the faith of the sick that was healing them, but, **the power of God** towards them.

Luke now mentions that even the evil spirits were coming out of them.

Acts 19:13; "Then some of the itinerant Jewish exorcists took it upon themselves to call the name of the Lord Jesus over those who had evil spirits, saying, "We exorcise you by the Jesus whom Paul preaches."

Itinerant:- That is, going from place to place, not having a steady home or place to settle.

Even these men are, or were trying to be like many today. They wanted to **abuse the Power from God** by doing something not authorized nor commanded.

They were EXORCISTS:- What is an exorcist?
Seeking to expel (an evil spirit) by religious or solemn ceremonies: to exorcise a demon.

They had probably made a living in time past by exorcising people and **wanted to continue making a living** despite the changes that Christ had brought to their communities.

Acts 19:13; "Then some of the itinerant Jewish exorcists took it upon themselves to call the name of the Lord Jesus over those who had evil spirits, saying, "We exorcise you by the Jesus whom Paul preaches."

Exorcists were common throughout the ancient world. Many were vagabonds, living as strolling gypsies. They lived a circus-type life, making a living off of the superstitions of people.

What happened to the names they invoked before hearing of Jesus? Obviously, they believed that the name of Jesus was more POWERFUL.

They were using Jesus' name like a "magical name."

The apostles were doing many things in THE NAME OF JESUS but they mentioned the name with AUTHORITY, not as a "magical name."

Matthew 1:21; Acts 4:12; Acts 10:43; 1 Tim 2:5-6;

Acts 19:14; “There were seven sons of Sceva, a Jewish chief priest, who did so.”

These exorcists or priests were seven sons of either a Jewish high priest or a man closely connected with the high priestly family.

Modern scholars cannot find this name in any other writings. It is problematic for a Jewish high priest (archiereus) to be in Ephesus.

There was a local synagogue, but the only Jewish temple was in Jerusalem. These priests should have been around Jerusalem.

Luke uses this very word several times in his Gospel and in Acts for the High Priest and his family in Jerusalem.



“Sons of Sceva”

Acts 19:14; “There were seven sons of Sceva, a Jewish chief priest, who did so.”

Some speculate that these exorcists or priests were seven sons of either a Jewish high priest or a man closely connected with the high priestly family.

Possibly, head of one of the twenty-four orders of priests set up by David. (1 Chron 24:7-19;)

If this man and his sons were priests, it is surprising they did not use **YHWH as the powerful name to control the spirits as does the magic or occult.**

Deut 18:9-12;

How degenerate and far the family had forsaken the high calling of God. **Priests were called by God to serve His people as priests.**

(What a warning to every PREACHER of the gospel!)

Acts 19:15; “And the evil spirit answered and said,
“Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are you?.”

The **evil spirit spoke** through the mouth of the demon possessed man. What those men were doing was so bad that even the demons began to talk.

Even **Satan is embarrassed** at what these men were doing. Even Satan knows when people are not working for Jesus.

Satan rejects pretenders. This is what is happening here, they are pretending to be workers of the Lord and Satan recognizes that.

It is very dangerous to use the name of God in vain. When God does not authorize somebody, this can be really dangerous.

Acts 19:16; “Then the man in whom the evil spirit was leaped on them, overpowered them, and prevailed against them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded.”

The anger that came from this demon was so powerful that no one could stop him. The punishment was so severe that they are being beaten by this evil spirit. Mark 5:3-4;

Paul was authorized by God to expel out demons, but these men were not authorized. They used the name of the Lord like a grenade in their hand that exploded when they were trying to use it.

Many are using the Bible in a way that they will cut themselves all over, many do not know that the Bible is a two edged sword. Then, they die.

Heb 4:12;

Acts 19:16; “Then the man in whom the evil spirit was leaped on them, overpowered them, and prevailed against them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded.”

**They fled naked and wounded.
Even though many see these results,
they do not think twice before they
continue mocking the name of God.**

**God is not playing when He says, that everything
men sow is what he will reap. Gal 6:7;**

**This is a warning for all of us in order to understand
that God, when it comes to salvation, is serious,
He wants us to be saved.
We should not take His word lightly.**

Acts 19:17; “This became known both to all Jews and Greeks dwelling in Ephesus; and fear fell on them all, the name of the Lord Jesus was magnified.”

This incident was well known.

All of the neighbours heard about this.

Jews, Greeks, and all dwelling in Ephesus.

The fear of God struck men's hearts.

They were gripped with a sense of awe and reverence when seeing God's power and demanded for righteousness and realized their need to walk righteously before God.

When Ananias and Sapphira were killed by God, the Bible also mentioned that fear came upon the members of the church. Acts 5:11;

The name of Lord Jesus was magnified.

That is the result when God takes action and humiliates those who are using his name falsely.



Acts 19:18; “many who had believed came confessing and telling their deeds.”

It seems that up until this event, many of the disciples at Ephesus still practiced sorceries and witchcraft. Now openly declare their evil deeds.

They dared keep the devil's counsel no longer, but exposed and manifested it, that their sores being laid open, the balm of the gospel might more effectually be put into them. Thus with the mouth, confession is made unto salvation. Rom 10:10;

It is not shameful at all to confess when we have done wrong, in fact, it is very noble to recognize that we have been following the wrong practices and that now we want to change. Psalm 29:2; 34:3;

Acts 19:19; “Also, many of those who had practiced magic brought their books together and burned them in the sight of all. And they counted up the value of them, and it totalled fifty thousand pieces of silver.”

The gospel not only SAVES, it OUGHT to change lives for the better, shining light to dispel the darkness of ignorance and superstition.

It OUGHT to make life better for everyone in the society. When you become a Christian even your dog ought to know the difference.

“Many who practiced magic.”

It is not the will of God that His children entertain themselves in unprofitable things.

Any practice that is not in accord with the word of God should be cut from the root and not even looked at anymore.

Acts 19:18; “many who had believed came confessing and telling their deeds.”

Why was sorcery such a big deal in New Testament times?



**Is sorcery a big
business today?
Horoscopes / Occult?**

Acts 19:19; “Also, many of those who had practiced magic brought their books together and burned them in the sight of all. And they counted up the value of them, and it totalled fifty thousand pieces of silver.”

“They brought the books.”

Repentance is not repentance unless we are willing to strive to give up for good all of the evil deeds that we are doing. I repented but continue in sin. it does not work. 1 John 1:7-9;

What did they do with the books?

They burned the books **in the presence of all** of the people. See? This is a very good step in order to show God that we want to change our ways.

Publicly. Their arts and offences had been public! So they sought now to **undo the evil**, as much as it lay in their power, as much as could be undone.

Acts 19:19; “Also, many of those who had practiced magic brought their books together and burned them in the sight of all. And they counted up the value of them, and it totalled fifty thousand pieces of silver.”



Acts 19:19; “Also, many of those who had practiced magic brought their books together and burned them in the sight of all. And they counted up the value of them, and it totalled fifty thousand pieces of silver.”

**They did not sell the items; they burned them.
They did not want them in the hands of others
because of their lies and degrading influence.**

**Giving up these books was a great financial sacrifice
for these Ephesians. Books were much more
valuable in the days before printing was invented.**

**If we know that
we are doing something that harms others,
do not pass it by, but destroy it!**



Acts 19:19; “Also, many of those who had practiced magic brought their books together and burned them in the sight of all. And they counted up the value of them, and it totalled fifty thousand pieces of silver.”

**A piece of silver was one day's wage,
so fifty thousand pieces of silver equalled
fifty thousand working days or 137 years.**

**We are talking about a lot of money that they burned
in order to please God, and to save their souls
And the souls of others by prevention.**

**What are we willing to do in order to please God?
What is in our hands that is hurting us
and may hold us back from entering heaven?**

**Remains of the Great Library
of Celsus in Ephesus.**



Acts 19:19; “Also, many of those who had practiced magic brought their books together and burned them in the sight of all. And they counted up the value of them, and it totalled fifty thousand pieces of silver.”

For historical reasons. One might wish these books had been spared to be studied by modern scholars for the information they might contain about the superstitions and cultures of the nations from which they came.

The philology or information about the languages and the anecdotal information contained in these books could have been invaluable to historians and linguists.

I have often found myself destroying books that were in excellent condition. Some of these books I could have sold for a good price. But I did it because I did not want the false teachings in the books to fall into the hands of the uninformed.

Acts 19:19; “Also, many of those who had practiced magic brought their books together and burned them in the sight of all. And they counted up the value of them, and it totalled fifty thousand pieces of silver.”

Let us strive to remove from our homes, our lives, and our family the things that will hinder us from seeing God’s face one day in heaven.

Jesus says: If your eye has been a stumbling block for you
“pluck it out.”

If your hand is being a stumbling block, “cut it off.”

Jesus challenges us to be serious about sin and its consequences.



Acts 19:20; “So the word of the Lord grew mightily and prevailed.”

The increase which the seed of the word had made was very remarkable; or it is a great instance of the power of God's word, when it makes men willing to part with their beloved and accustomed sins, and, to not stand upon saving or gaining;

So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me void, But it shall accomplish what I please, And it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it. **Isa 55:11;**

Acts 19:21; “When these things were accomplished, Paul purposed in the Spirit, when he had passed through Macedonia and Achaia, to go to Jerusalem, saying, “After I have been there, I must also see Rome.”

**“These things,” that is, the demon possessed.
The beating from the demon unto those
who were pretending to be “exorcists.”**

**Paul purposed in the spirit; resolved with himself,
or purposed in his heart, as **Dan 1:8;****

**“But Daniel made up his mind that he would not
defile himself with the king's choice food
or with the wine which he drank;
so he sought permission from the commander
of the officials that he might not defile himself.”**

Acts 19:21; “When these things were accomplished, Paul purposed in the Spirit, when he had passed through Macedonia and Achaia, to go to Jerusalem, saying, “After I have been there, I must also see Rome.”

Paul was planning to visit the congregations he had established in Macedonia and Achaia, as well as new ones that might have come into being while he had been away.

Paul travelled through these countries, and went to these cities, because he hoped for a greater harvest, as he scattered the seed so far abroad.

Acts 19:22; “So he sent into Macedonia two of those who ministered to him, Timothy and Erastus, but he himself stayed in Asia for a time.”

Paul is in Ephesus. From here, he sent to Macedonia two of those who worked with him.

These men were always ready and willing to help Paul in every way that might need them. Here we can see that they were ready to move wherever Paul might send them.

Paul sends his fellow workers on ahead to Macedonia while he remains in the province of Asia for a while longer.

But as we will see, he will soon be in danger from his greedy enemies in Ephesus.

Acts 19:23; “And about that time there arose a great commotion about the Way.”

**Even though the word of God was prevailing,
not all is over. Paul defeated Satan concerning
the magic problem but after that,
he found himself with another problem.**

**The commotion was against the WAY. There was
a backlash against the impact of the gospel.**

**The gospel was changing people lives
and changing their actions.**

**The people were no longer buying
the idols like they used to do!**

Acts 19:24; “For a certain man named Demetrius, a silversmith, who made silver shrines of Artemis, brought no small profit to the craftsmen.”

When a man is truly converted, he does two things.

1. He faces the truth. There are
"no gods which are made with hands," (Acts 19:26;)
or created by the imaginations of men.

**If man imagines it or makes it,
it is an idol, an empty thought,
or else, just material substance.
It is not God, not the Sovereign
Majesty of the universe.**



Acts 19:24; "For a certain man named Demetrius, a silversmith, who made silver shrines of Diana, brought no small profit to the craftsmen."

**"As concerning therefore the eating of those things that are offered in sacrifice unto idols, we know that an idol is nothing in the world, and that there is none other God but one."
(1 Cor 8:4;)**

**"There is one God and Father of all,
who is above all,
and through all, and in you all."
(Ephes 4:6;)**

Acts 19:24; “For a certain man named Demetrius, a silversmith, who made silver shrines of Artemis, brought no small profit to the craftsmen.”

2. He denies all gods except God Himself.

**He repents and is converted: he
"turns to God from idols
to serve the living and true God."
(1 Thess 1:9;)**

**There are too many Demetrius's in the world;
too many greedy men who engage in evil
professions that harm and degrade men and women.**

**The great need of the hour is for some
to step forth as the Paul's of the world.
To step forth proclaiming that men must turn to God
from the idols and evil professions of this world.**

Acts 19:24; “For a certain man named Demetrius, a silversmith, who made silver shrines of Artemis, brought no small profit to the craftsmen.”

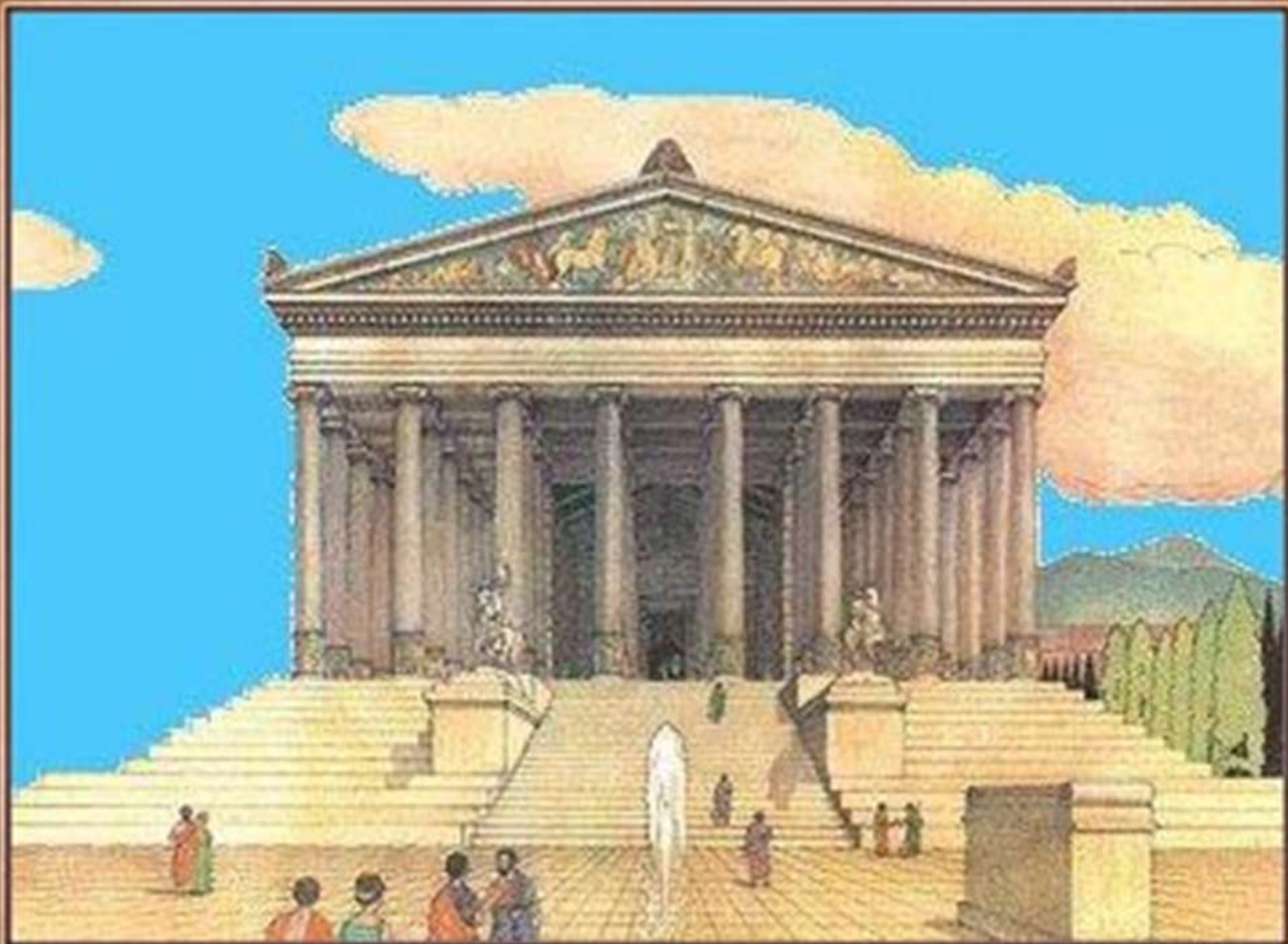
The message of the Lord attacked the greed of evil professions. Demetrius and the silversmiths were engaged in an evil profession,

That of making and selling items (idols) that were harmful and damaging to men.

Demetrius’ words are testimony to the effectiveness of Paul’s teaching. There was no longer a market in the province of Asia for idolatrous objects.

**Their craft was profitable,.
It was their livelihood,
the basis of their wealth
and social standing.**





Acts 19:26; “You see and hear that not only in Ephesus, but in almost all of Asia, this Paul has persuaded and turned away a considerable number of people, saying that gods made with hands are no gods at all.”

The temple of Artemis in Ephesus was world-famous in the Greco-Roman world. Idol worshippers came there from all over.

It was a marble temple with over 100 marble columns about 5 FT in diameter and 50 FT tall.

The statue of Artemis was over 40 feet tall. It was destroyed in about 260 AD.

The idol was said to have fallen from heaven. Some say that perhaps a portion of it was made from a meteorite.



Acts 19:24; “For a certain man named Demetrius, a silversmith, who made silver shrines of Artemis, brought no small profit to the craftsmen.”

Artemis (Latin: Diana) was the Great Huntress.

Artemis was worshipped in most Greek cities but only as a secondary deity.

However, to the Greeks in Asia Minor (modern day Turkey) she was a prominent deity.

In Ephesus a great temple was built in her honour, which became one of the

"Seven Wonders of the Ancient World."

But here she was worshipped mainly as a fertility goddess, and was identified with **Cybele the mother goddess of eastern lands.**



Ephesian Artemis



Acts 19:24; “For a certain man named Demetrius, a silversmith, who made silver shrines of Artemis, brought no small profit to the craftsmen.”

The cult statues of the Ephesian Artemis differ greatly from those of mainland Greece, where she is depicted as a huntress with her bow and arrows.

Those found at Ephesus show her in the eastern style, standing erect with numerous nodes on her chest.

There have been many theories as to what they represent. Some say they are breasts, others that they are bulls' testes which were sacrificed to her.

**Which is the true interpretation remains uncertain, but both represent fertility.
(Encyclopedia Mythica).**



Roman Coin – Temple of Artemis

Acts 19:25-26; “He called them together with the workers of similar occupation, and said: “Men, you know that we have our prosperity by this trade
You see and hear that not only in Ephesus, but in almost all of Asia, this Paul has persuaded and turned away a considerable number of people, saying that gods made with hands are no gods at all.”

Demetrius was apparently an influential citizen in the city, perhaps the head of the silversmith guild.

He calls the workers with the same profession as his and explained to them what was going on.

Note **Demetrius’** words:- “Men, you know that we have our prosperity by this trade.”

OUR PROSPERITY.

Exactly, like many of the **modern preachers today**, they were being prospered by **lying to people and by deceiving** big and small, by **making and selling images** that do not help anyone at all.

Psalm 115:4; Isaiah 40:10-20; Jer 10:3;

Acts 19:25; “He called them together with the workers of similar occupation, and said: “Men, you know that we have our prosperity by this trade.”

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Acts 19:27; “So not only is this trade of ours in danger of falling into disrepute, but also the temple of the great goddess Diana may be despised and her magnificence destroyed, whom all Asia and the world worship.”

When the light shines all that is in darkness is revealed! When the truth comes, all that is fake will be exposed.

Demetrius is worried that his business will collapse because of this man Paul and the new things that he is preaching.

- 1. Paul had turned many people away by telling them that things made by men's hands are not gods!**
- 2. As a result, their trade of making such idols was in danger of being destroyed.**
- 3. The temple of Diana was going to be despised.**

Acts 19:27; “So not only is this trade of ours in danger of falling into disrepute, but also the temple of the great goddess Diana may be despised and her magnificence destroyed, whom all Asia and the world worship.”

Was **Paul** speaking the truth? **Yes**. God is the only true God and outside of Him there are no other Gods. Jeremiah 10:3-5;10:14-15; Hos 8:4; Gal 4:8;

The message that Paul was preaching, was and is like dynamite. It has the power to change, to convert people. Romans 1:16,17; Jer 20:9;

The Way of the Lord was falsely accused and attacked. **Demetrius charged Paul** and the Christians with being revolutionaries!

Paul's message was destroying the livelihood and small businesses of all silversmiths in Ephesus.

Acts 19:27; “So not only is this trade of ours in danger of falling into disrepute, but also the temple of the great goddess Artemis may be despised and her magnificence destroyed, whom all Asia and the world worship.”

Demetrius stirred the silversmiths to move about and to incite the city against Paul and the believers.

Not only that, we shall have no more to do, and be without work; but, it will also be a reproach unto us to have had such an employment.

They are embarrassed because Diana would be dishonoured and people from all over would hear about it, even those from ASIA.

This temple is said to have been burnt down the same day that Alexander was born, and, that it took two hundred and twenty years to rebuild, at the cost to all of Asia.

Acts 19:28; “Now when they heard this, they were full of wrath and cried out, saying, “Great is Diana of the Ephesians!.”

Finally, **Demetrius got what he wanted.**

To stir up the people. What happens next, is just a bunch of fanatics yelling and screaming, who don't have anything better to do.

“So they took the bull which was given them, and they prepared it, and called on the name of Baal from morning even till noon, saying, “O Baal, hear us!” But there was no voice; no one answered.

Then they leaped about the altar which they had made.” 1Kings 18:26;

People will go crazy
in order to defend their practices.
These **fanatics** are **FULL** of **WRATH.**

Acts 19:28; “Now when they heard this, they were full of wrath and cried out, saying, “Great is Artemis of the Ephesians!”

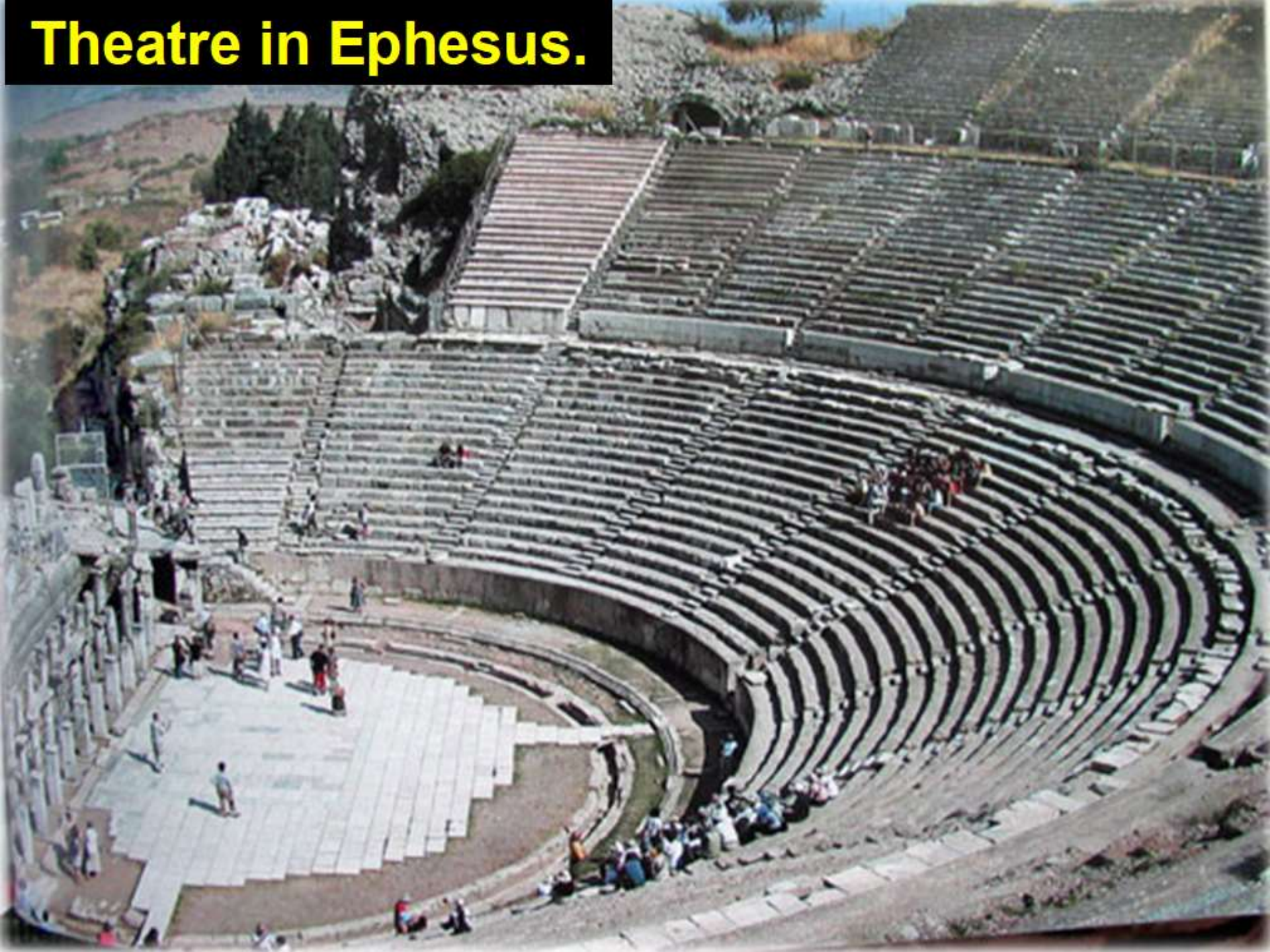
FULL of WRATH. That means that they are willing to do anything that they can in order to stop the **“guilty ones”** from committing all of this blasphemy.

The term “great” was often applied by the Greeks to Diana. **“Diana of the Ephesians.”**

The design of this clamour was doubtless in producing a persecution against Paul; and thus, to secure a continuance of their employment.

**They are fighting for their jobs,
they don't want to be unemployed.**

Theatre in Ephesus.



Acts 19:29; “So the whole city was filled with confusion, and rushed into the Theatre with one accord, having seized Gaius and Aristarchus, Macedonians, Paul's travel companions.”

The whole city. These people are really mad, their “god” has been insulted and they are willing, even, to take this to the Theatre

This Theatre that seated about **25,000 people** is still in usable condition in the excavated old city. We can imagine this great Theatre full of shouting people.

Having caught **Gaius** a Macedonian and **Aristarchus** of Thessalonica Acts 20:4;.
This man was a faithful companion of Paul until the end, we read about him in: Philemon 24; Col 4:10;

Remember **Acts 17:5-7;** They did not find Paul and instead **they took Jason.** Acts 9:25, 30; 17:10, 14;

Acts 19:30; “And when Paul wanted to go in to the people,
the disciples would not allow him.”

Luke does not explain why they took Gaius and Aristarchus, but one thing we know is that **Paul was not hiding**. Phil 1:28; 2 Tim 1:7; Deut 31:6; Psalm 3:6; Psalm 27:3; Psalm 118:6; Isaiah 12:2;

Paul was **not a “coward”** - he was ready and willing to defend what he was preaching.

The disciples are again the ones who would not let Paul enter into the confusion.

Paul was really useful for the Lord and they (The disciples) are protecting him from receiving any harm by these crazy and ignorant people.

Acts 19:30; “Then some of the officials of Asia, who were his friends, sent to him pleading that he would not venture into the theatre.”

The Lord told Ananias that he would show Paul how much he would suffer for the cause of Christ.

Acts 9:16; "For I will show him how many things he must suffer for My name's sake."

This is one of those cases.

Paul was not preaching in secret, to the point that he had some friends among the authorities of Asia.

The term in the original language (**Asiarch**) was a title specific to this province.

It is thought these were chiefs or pontiffs of the Roman province of Asia, who had the oversight of the public games and religious rites.



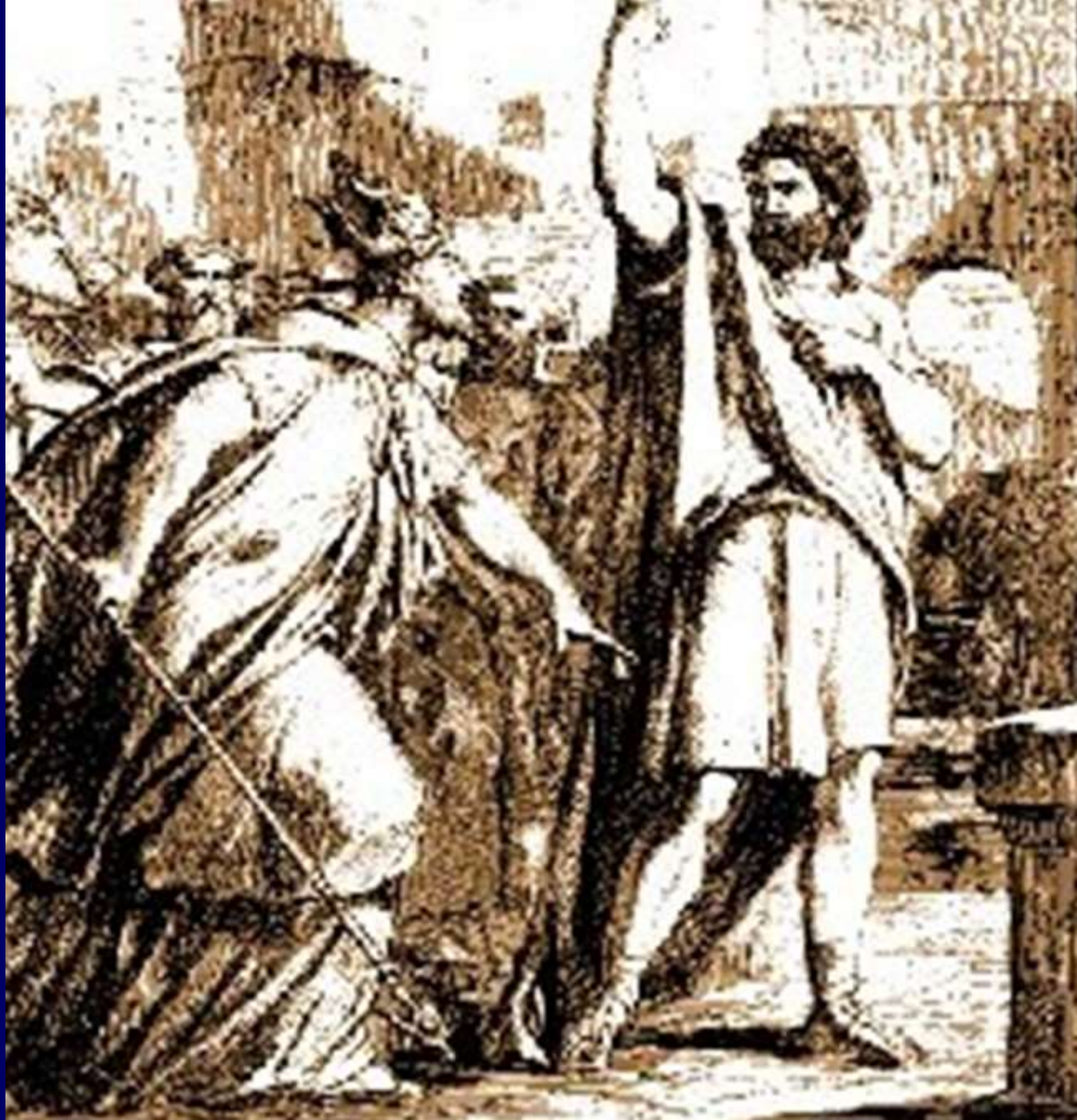
Acts 19:30; “Then some of the officials of Asia, who were his friends, sent to him pleading that he would not venture into the theatre.”

The word has been found in historical records of the time naming some of these officials. One was Tiberius Claudius Menander who served in 80 AD.

Paul seems to have always had friends in high places, like Erastus, director of public works in Corinth (Romans 16:23; See also Philipp 4:22;)

These **Asiarch's** who advised Paul were also not willing to take chances. If he would have gone, they would have probably torn him apart.

They crowd are out of control and they wanted to find the culprit of all of this trouble.



Acts 19:32; “Some therefore cried one thing and some another, for the assembly was confused, and most of them did not know why they had come together.”

Does that sound familiar to you?

Do we have people like that today?

**Many today are running after different religions
yelling and screaming one thing and another
And the bottom line is that they often do not know
what they are shouting about?**

**Rangers and Celtic supporters,
Catholics and Protestants often shout and fight
but have forgotten
what they are shouting and fighting about.**

**They were like the Ephesians. Most of them did not
know why they had come together. Does this sound
familiar too? Mat 10:17; John 15:20; 2 Tim 3:12;**

Acts 19:32; “Some therefore cried one thing and some another, for the assembly was confused, and most of them did not know why they had come together.”

When should Christians put their lives on the line and when should they not?

Is it sensible to **learn when to speak and when to keep quiet?**

I have met many men who were **drunk, who will argue all night over religion yet when they are **sober** they do not want to discuss religion.**

“Do not be afraid of what you are about to suffer. I tell you, the devil will put some of you in prison to test you, and you will suffer persecution for ten days. Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you the crown of life.”

Revelation 2:10;

Acts 19:33; “they drew Alexander out of the multitude, the Jews putting him forward. And Alexander motioned with his hand, and wanted to make his defence to the people.”

This situation is getting completely out of control, the mob is outraged and now they are bringing a man with the name of Alexander.

Who was Alexander? Perhaps he is the same that Paul mentioned in 2 Timothy 4:14;

Some believe that this Alexander is the same that later struggled with his faith and Paul gave him to Satan? 1 Tim 1:20;

He wants to speak, they did not let him, they want to kill anyone at this point for offending their goddess.

Acts 19:33; “they drew Alexander out of the assembly, the Jews putting him forward. And Alexander motioned with his hand, and wanted to make his defence to the people.”

Alexander was a Jew but he was a silversmith, (2 Tim 4:14;) one of the ringleaders in the protest.

“The **assembly.**” This word in the Greek (**ekklesia**) **a called out people** is the word most often mistranslated “**church**” in the New Testament. .

Most of those assembled didn't know why they were there.

However, the mob was not happy having a Jew as their spokesman to argue for their idolatrous cause.

Acts 19:34; “But when they found out that he was a Jew, all with one voice cried out for about two hours, “Great is Artemis of the Ephesians!”

They ignored the man and in order to ignore him, they were yelling from the top of their lungs.

FOR ALMOST TWO HOURS THEY SHOUTED!
“Great is Artemis of the Ephesians!”



Acts 19:35; “And when the city clerk had quieted the crowd, he said:
“Men of Ephesus, what man is there who does not know that
the city of the Ephesians is temple guardian of the great goddess Artemis,
and of the image which fell down from Zeus!”

Who is the Clerk? The scribe; the secretary.
The word is often used in the New Testament,
and is commonly translated scribe, and is applied
to public notaries in the synagogues; to clerks,
and to those who transcribed books, and hence
to men skilled in the law or any kind of learning.

What man is there?

Who is there that can deny this?
It is universally known and admitted.

**This is the language of strong confidence,
of reproof, and of indignation.**



Acts 19:35; “And when the city clerk had quieted the crowd, he said:

“Men of Ephesus, what man is there who does not know that the city of the Ephesians is temple guardian of the great goddess Artemis, and of the image which fell down from Zeus!”

**It implied, that the worship of Diana
was so well established,
that there was no danger that it
could be destroyed by a few Jews;**

**He therefore, reproved them for what
he deemed their unreasonable alarm.**

Acts 19:35; “And when the city clerk had quieted the crowd, he said:
“Men of Ephesus, what man is there who does not know that
the city of the Ephesians is temple guardian of the great goddess Artemis,
and of the image which fell down from Zeus!”

The statement by this wise city clerk gives
a clue as to why the temple of Artemis at Ephesus
was so special to the goddess.

The stone that fell from heaven that supposedly
bore the image of the goddess was evidently
a meteorite that one could look at and imagine
to see in it the form of the female figure.

Someone might even have altered it slightly,
sculpting it to look more humanoid in form.

This reminds us of the black meteorite
in the **Kaaba in Mecca worshipped by Muslims.**

The Black Stone in the Kaaba at Mecca.



Acts 19:37; “For you have brought these men here who are neither robbers of temples nor blasphemers of your goddess.”

In case anyone doubts that the **sacred black stone** in the **Kaaba** is truly **worshipped by Muslims**.

Here is a quote from one of their writers,

*“The eyes perceive in it a wonderful beauty, similar to that of a young bride; in kissing it one feels a pleasure that delights the mouth, and whoever kisses it wishes he might never cease to do so; for this is an inherent quality in it and a divine grace in its favour. Let us only recite the words of the Prophet in this connection: **“Certainly it is the right hand of God on earth.”***

(Ibn Batoutah or Battuta). [Another link.](#)

**Black Meteorite.
This is not
the one in Mecca.**



Acts 19:36; “Therefore, since these things cannot be denied, you ought to be quiet and do nothing rashly.”

The Clerk is trying to convince the people that what they are worshipping is true. **(Even though it was not).**

They were worshipping something that is not real but what he is trying to do is to settle down a group of people, who are ready to shed blood.

Be quiet. Be appeased. The same Greek word which is used in Acts 19:35; "had appeased the people."

“do nothing rashly.” To do nothing in a heated, inconsiderate manner. There is no occasion for tumult and riot. The whole difficulty can be settled in perfect consistency with maintaining order.

Acts 19:37; “For you have brought these men here who are neither robbers of temples nor blasphemers of your goddess.”

The clerk is saying that Paul

and his companions are not evil men.

They are not robbers of temples nor blasphemers.

What they are doing is teaching the word of God.

Paul has not said anything against Artemis, what he's been saying is that God is the God that is not made with hands.

So what they were worshipping is not God but rather an idol.

Paul was not making fun of their goddess.

**What he is doing is teaching the true God,
the one who created all things.**

The problem was Demetrius.

**He was close to losing his job and
this is the reason why he stirred the crowd.**

Acts 19:38; “Therefore, if Demetrius and his fellow craftsmen have a case against anyone, the courts are open and there are proconsuls.
Let them bring charges against one another.”

**The Clerk has nothing against the men of God,
what he is recommending is the right thing.**

**If Demetrius and his clan has any problems
with the apostles of Jesus, the clerk says
to follow the proper channels.**

**Take them to court, follow the proper procedure,
follow the right papers and accuse them formally.**

**Paul has no charges against anybody,
the charges that he is bringing are spiritual,
he is teaching people
to follow the true and ONLY God.**

Acts 19:39; “But if you have any other inquiry to make,
it shall be determined in the lawful assembly.”

**If you have any other accusations, complaints,
quarrels. The clerk is saying that this is not the
proper assembly to bring charges against anybody.**

**Follow what is right and do it in the right way.
You must follow the lawful assembly.
People follow wrong ways and laws in order
to take justice into their own hands.**

**What this man is saying, is to take these men
legally to the judge and accuse them
if you have a legitimate complaint.**

Acts 19:40; “For we are in danger of being called in question for today's uproar, there being no reason which we may give to account for this disorderly gathering.”

The clerk says:- “We are in danger.”

There is no reason for this uproar!

Demetrius is the one putting all of these people in danger of being disciplined by the proconsul.

The proconsul was representatives of the Caesars in parts where Rome had their dominion in those days.

Creating trouble was dangerous when Rome was dominating, that's why **Pilate** was threatened by the Jews.

City Clerk's Five Major Points:-

V35-36; No one could deny that Ephesus was the guardian of Artemis's temple. Therefore **they ought to be quiet and do nothing rashly.**

V37; Paul and the others **weren't temple robbers or blasphemers** of their Goddess.

V38; If there were legitimate charges, **Demetrius ought to bring them to the authorised courts.**

V39; If they had other enquiries to make, they should bring it to a **LAWFUL** assembly

V40; They were in danger from the Roman government by their **DISORDERLY** gathering.

Lex Romana. (Roman Law.)



*Lex
Romana*

Acts 19:41; “When he had said these things, he dismissed the assembly.”

There was no crime! Their yelling and screaming was just stirred by dishonest men, they had no basis in order to accuse Paul and his partners.

When everything that we are doing is approved by God there is no one that can come and stop us.

**They can accuse us
but they cannot silence the word of God.**

1Pet 3:16; “Having a good conscience; that, whereas they speak evil of you, as of evildoers, they may be ashamed that falsely accuse your good conversation in Christ.”

**Remember:- Speak the TRUTH in LOVE.
We have NO RIGHT TO BE RUDE!**

Acts 19:41; “When he had said these things, he dismissed the assembly.”

People may take their anger out on us but it is misdirected just as Cain’s was. He killed his brother, not because of anything his brother did to him but because **Cain was angry with God.**



Conclusion.

Paul had survived another close call. His usefulness at Ephesus for the time being was at an end.

The congregation there would continue long after he was off the scene.

He would write a letter to this congregation.

He would write two letters to Timothy whom he had decided to leave there to organize and encourage the congregation. (1 Timothy 1:3;)

John the Apostle would work there, taking Mary, Mother of Jesus with him.



John's Tomb

Conclusion.

**From Ephesus John would be exiled to Patmos,
a small island just offshore from Ephesus.**

**Jesus would write one of His seven letters to the
churches of Asia to this congregation at Ephesus.**

**John would later return to Ephesus and serve out
his remaining years, die and be buried there.**

**Some early traditions say that after John died,
Mary returned to Palestine to live out the remainder
of her years she was buried near Jerusalem.
I would have thought that she would be too old
to outlive John?**

Mary's House at Ephesus. (Traditional.)



The Third Missionary Journey.

Part 2 = Acts 19:1-41;

Paul at Ephesus.

**Prepared by
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<https://www.graemebibleresources.com>

**Next in the series:-
Acts 20:1**

God's Protection?

By Ellis Jones



God's Protection?

By Ellis Jones

**What kind of protection
Has God promised you?
Will He keep you from the harm
That all flesh is subject to?**

**Will He keep evil men
From having evil plans?
Or carrying them out
With evil hearts and hands?**



**No, He has promised you
To love you to the end.
And if you commit to Him,
Your soul He will defend.**

**He promised He will walk with you
Through Death's shadowed valley.
He will receive your soul that day,
From gutter, house or alley.**



**All in flesh were doomed to die,
When Adam lost that Tree.
The flesh is prison to the soul
Which someday will be free.**

**Faith in God is not so hard
If one obeys His Word.
Blaming God for man's vile deeds
To me is quite absurd.**



**Your judgment Day is coming soon,
In this world and in the next;
Justice will be fair and firm,
Where there is no pretext.**





A serene sunset scene over a body of water. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a warm, golden glow across the sky and reflecting on the water's surface. Silhouetted tree branches frame the top and sides of the image, while dark hills are visible in the background. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

The End