



Acts

Lesson 18, Chapter 19

“I became a servant of this gospel by the gift of God’s grace given to me through the working of His power. Although I am less than the least of all God’s people, this grace was given me; to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things. His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, according to his eternal purpose which he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord. In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence. I ask you, therefore, not to be discouraged because of my sufferings for you, which are your glory.” Paul, to the believers in Ephesus Ephesians 3:7-13.

In Chapter 18 Luke gave us the continuation of Paul’s second missionary journey including Athens, Corinth, and Ephesus. Paul is only able to stay a short while in Ephesus, but leaves the church there in the capable hands of his new associates Aquila and Priscilla. He then heads to Antioch to give his report on this journey.

READ CHAPTER 19



So far in the Book of Acts, the Holy Spirit had administered the gift of speaking in tongues on believers for the purpose of “being witnesses” to those who otherwise could not hear the gospel in their own language, and to be a new covenant sign (a witness) that God was dwelling in and empowering those who had truly believed in Jesus (see Acts 2:9-11 and Mark 16:15-18)

After staying at Antioch probably just short of a year, Paul sets out on his third and final missionary journey. On this journey he again returns to some of the cities where churches had been established to check on their welfare.

In Chapter 19 Paul makes a return trip to Ephesus which is a large commercial area with a population of approximately half a million people. Though it is a virtual boiling pot of cults, it was most known for being the “guardian of the temple of Artemis.” In Greek mythology Artemis, also called Diana, was a virgin huntress depicted by a large, multi-breasted image. A statue of her was placed in a magnificent temple in Ephesus which was famed as one of the wonders of the world.

In Ephesus, with the Spirit of God moving mightily in Paul, he will face a power encounter with Satan. Once again God’s purposes prevail, and “...the word of the Lord spread widely and grew in power.”

1. *In light of the above information, explain what is taking place in Acts 19:1-7. (See also question 9 of lesson 17).*

2. *What caused Paul to move his teaching arena to another location, and what was the effect of that? 19:9-10*

3. *Imagine and describe how the power that Paul had been given (vs. 11) might affect him. What does Paul say about this in 2 Corinthians 12:1-10?*

4. *Describe the event that took place that caused a revival of sorts to break out in Ephesus, and what was the result of the revival? 19:11-20.*



The books burned undoubtedly contained secret magic spells. Burning them proved the genuineness of their repentance and determination to not return to their old practices. Fifty thousand pieces of silver was equivalent to fifty thousand days' wages for a common laborer. MacArthur Study Bible

5. *What was one of Paul's main motivations for going on to Jerusalem? See Romans 15:23-27.*

6. *Where does Paul hope to extend his ministry to in the future? 19:21.*

7. *Give some information about Erastus. 19:22 See Romans 16:23 and 2 Timothy 4:20.*

8. *According to 1 Corinthians 16:5-9, why did Paul stay in Ephesus?*

9. *Describe the disturbance that arose in Ephesus. 19:23-27. What was actually the underlying motivation for this conflict?*

10. *Why did the mob seize Gaius and Aristarchus? 19:28-29*

11. *How did the city clerk get the crowd to disperse? 19:35-41*

Prayer requests:

Group time notes:
