

Monday 7:00pm, H 105 (1st floor, High School--foot of stairs, behind the gym, by the vending machine area), Tuesday 7:00am, Family, Room, CCCM – Phil Twente, cell #714 425 9221; email – ptwente@gmail.com For past studies, audio plus notes, go to: <http://www.missioncalvary.com/> Click on “Bible Studies” on the left column. References include commentaries by numerous pastor/teachers.

Act 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
Act 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."
Act 19:3 And he said to them, "Into what then were you baptized?" So they said, "Into John's baptism."
Act 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 Christ Jesus."
Act 19:5 When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.
Act 19:6 And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied.
Act 19:7 Now the men were about twelve in all.
Act 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.
Act 19:9 But when 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.
Act 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.

V1. Having passed through - Galatia and Phrygia, which were termed the upper parts of Asia Minor. Certain disciples - Who had been formerly baptized by John the Baptist, and since imperfectly instructed in Christianity.
V2 *Did you receive the Holy Spirit?* - The extraordinary gifts of the Spirit, as well as His sanctifying graces? We have not so much as heard - Whether there be any such gifts.
V3 *Into what then were you baptized?* - Into what dispensation? To the sealing of what doctrine? Into John's baptism - We were baptized by John and believe what he taught. “Jesus only” heresy.
V4 *John indeed baptized* - That is, the whole baptism and preaching of John pointed at Christ. After this John is mentioned no more in the New Testament. Here he gives way to Christ altogether. And hearing this, they were baptized - By some other. Paul only laid
V5 *When they heard this.* They were baptized - They were baptized twice; but not with the same baptism. John did not administer that baptism which Christ afterward commanded, that is, in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
V6 *They spoke with tongues, and prophesied* - They received the miraculous gift of different languages; and in those languages they taught to the people the great doctrines of the Christian religion; for this appears to be the meaning of the word π ρ ο ε φ η τ ε υ ο ν , prophesied, as it is used above.
V7 Notice there were twelve men. This was the beginning of the ministry at Ephesus. Paul had a great ministry in Corinth and an even greater ministry in Ephesus.
Vs. 8-10 Paul had to leave the synagogue because there was a great deal of opposition to him. He moved his place of operation and did his speaking daily in the school of Tyrannus, a school that was conducted for the Ephesians. He preached the Word of God for a period of two years. This gives us some concept of how the Word of God was growing in that day. By the simple fact that from the school of Tyrannus the gospel sounded forth—it went out everywhere. For two years the gospel sounded out so that everyone in the province of Asia had heard it. Probably the seven churches of Asia Minor came into existence through the preaching of Paul the apostle here at Ephesus. This may have been where he had his greatest ministry.

"Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?"
"When"(NKJV) can also be translated
"since"(KJV) Some controversy over this. The Scripture does teach that there is an experience of empowering by the Holy Spirit that is separate from conversion and subsequent to conversion. **Acts 1:4/John 20:22**; Philip at Samaria **Acts 8:14:17**; Paul's conversion Acts 9:1-22. But it really makes no difference. Because Paul is acknowledging that there is a relationship with the Holy Spirit that when they believed, did you not receive him? Or since you believed have you received Him? Paul is intimating that you can believe and yet not receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. Or by the other translation, you can receive even as he did, Jesus as your Lord, but be filled with the Holy Spirit at a later time. So why Paul asked the question is probably an observation of a lack of fervency. A lack of love. A lack of passion. A lack of fire. There are many Christians who are lacking the real dynamic of the Spirit in their lives. They are sort of ho-hum Christians. There is no real fire. There is no real dynamic. Yes, I'm a Christian. Of course, I believe in Jesus, but it doesn't go beyond that. There is no real enthusiasm for the things of the Spirit, for the things of the Lord. And perhaps Paul observed that there was sort of a spiritual deadness. So his question, have you received the Holy Spirit? Because the Holy Spirit is a dynamic! It's a power! It's something that makes us alive to the things of the Spirit! It brings in us a fire and an enthusiasm. So did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed? And they said we haven't even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.

ACTS CHAPTER 19

OBSERVATION

Act 19:11 Now God worked unusual miracles by the hands of Paul,

Act 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.

Act 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."

Act 19:14 Also there were seven sons of Sceva, a Jewish chief priest, who did so.

Act 19:15 And the evil spirit answered and said, "Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are you?"

Act 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.

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

Act 19:18 And many who had believed came confessing and telling their deeds.

Act 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 totaled fifty thousand pieces of silver.

Act 19:20 So the word of the Lord grew mightily and prevailed.

Act 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."

INTERPRETATION

V 11. There are different words used in the Greek which our Bible translates as "miracles." Here the word for "miracle" is *dunamis* from which we get our word dynamite. It means "an act of power." God wrought special powers by the hands of Paul. He is exercising the gifts of an apostle.

V 12 *Evil spirits* - Who also occasioned many of those diseases, which yet might appear to be purely natural.

V 13 When they saw what Paul did, they tried to duplicate it. Now a specific incident will be related.

Vs. 14-15 Notice that these were priests. The priests had actually gone into this type of thing. The Greek word here for "know" is *ginosko*. It does not imply a knowledge by faith. It means simply that the evil spirit knows who Jesus is.

V 16 The attempt of the sons of Sceva to try to duplicate the miracles of Paul backfired. It backfired to their humiliation and hurt and apparently was a great embarrassment for them.

V 17 You can see the effect that this had. It caused the name of the Lord Jesus to be spread through that entire pagan city. Ephesus was a great city, and it was shaken by this. The miracles of Paul shook Ephesus to its very foundation. The name of the Lord Jesus was magnified through them.

V 18 Many came confessing - Of their own accord, and openly declaring their deeds - The efficacy of God's word, penetrating the inmost recesses of their soul, wrought that free and open confession to which perhaps even torments would not have compelled them.

V 19 This event helped spread the Gospel, and many former sorcerers and magicians (dabblers in spiritualism and other Satanic practices) brought their books and burned them. 50,000 days' wages - @\$8/hr.= \$3,200,000 - That's many books!

Vs. 20-21 *"When these things were accomplished"*—that is, these experiences which Luke has recorded here—it apparently was Paul's intention to go to Rome on this missionary journey. The interesting thing is that he did go to Rome, but not the way he had planned to go

APPLICATION

6 *And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon (apee) them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied.*

Speaking in Tongues:

When the Holy Spirit was originally poured out upon the church, in Acts chapter 2, they spoke in tongues and there were cloven tongues like fire upon each of them. There was a sound like a mighty rushing wind.

When Peter came to Caesarea (**Acts 10:23-48**) to bring the gospel to the Gentiles and as he was speaking, the Holy Spirit came upon them again those in Caesarea spoke in tongues.

When Philip went to Samaria (**Acts chapter 8**) and Peter and John came and laid hands on them that they might receive the gift of the Holy Spirit, there is no mention of their speaking in tongues. However there must have been some kind of indication that they were receiving something special, otherwise Simon would not have desired to buy the power, unless he had seen some kind of supernatural evidence indicating that they had received the Holy Spirit.

When Paul received the Holy Spirit there is no mention of Paul speaking in tongues.

On the day of Pentecost it was **as they were praying**, that the Spirit came upon them.

In the case of Samaria, the apostles **laid hands on them**.

In the case of those in Caesarea, Peter didn't lay hands on them. While he **was just speaking**, the Holy Spirit sovereignly came upon them.

With Paul, Ananias **laid his hands** on him.

ACTS CHAPTER 19

OBSERVATION

Act 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.

Act 19:23 And about that time there arose a great commotion about the Way.

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

Act 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.

Act 19:26 Moreover you see and hear that not only at Ephesus, but throughout almost all Asia, this Paul has persuaded and turned away many people, saying that they are not gods which are made with hands.

Act 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."

Act 19:28 Now when they heard this, they were full of wrath and cried out, saying, "Great is Diana of the Ephesians!"

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

Act 19:30 And when Paul wanted to go in to the people, the disciples would not allow him.

INTERPRETATION

V 22 *Timotheus and Erastus*; Paul's assistants in preaching the Gospel the former of these was a disciple he found at Lystra, and took along with him, and to whom he afterwards wrote two epistles; and the latter seems to be the same with him, who was the treasurer of the city of Corinth, and is said to abide there, Rom 16:23

V 23 Christianity had no name for the churches at that time—certainly no denominational name. It was simply called "*the way*." It was a new way, that is certain. The way was the Lord Jesus who Himself said, "... I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me" (Joh 14:6).

V 24 *Silver shrines* - Silver models of that famous temple, which were bought not only by the citizens, but by strangers from all parts. The artificers - The other silversmiths.

V 25 *We have our prosperity by this trade* - The word not only signifies wealth, but also abundance. It was a most lucrative trade; and he plainly saw that, if the apostles were permitted to go on thus preaching, the worship of Diana itself would be destroyed; and, consequently, all the gain that he and his fellows derived from it would be brought to nothing.

V 26 Saying, that they are not gods which are made with hands - This manifestly shows, that the contrary opinion did then generally prevail, namely, that there was a real Divinity in their sacred images. Though some of the later heathens spoke of them just as the Romanists do now.

V 27 The worship of Diana had spread throughout Asia. Ephesus was a center of commerce and a center of religion and a center of worship. It was a center for the Oriental and the Occidental, a place where East and West did meet—the worst in both came to Ephesus.

V 28 They went around the city with their placards shouting, "Great is Diana of the Ephesians."

V 29 They rushed with one accord - Demetrius and his company, into the theatre - Where criminals were wont to be thrown to the wild beasts, dragging with them Gaius and Aristarchus - When they could not find Paul. Probably they hoped to oblige them to fight with the wild beasts, as some think St. Paul had done before.

V 30 When Paul would have gone in to the people - Being above all fear, to plead the cause of his companions, and prove they are not gods which are made with hands.

APPLICATION

How Great Thou Art! – Londonderry Choir

*1. O Lord my God, When I in awesome wonder,
Consider all the worlds Thy Hands have made;
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy power throughout the universe displayed.*

*Chorus: - Then sings my soul, My Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art, How great Thou art.
Then sings my soul, My Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art, How great Thou art!*

*2. When through the woods, and forest glades I wander,
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees.
When I look down, from lofty mountain grandeur
And see the brook, and feel the gentle breeze.
Chorus*

*3. And when I think, that God, His Son not sparing;
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in;
That on the Cross, my burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died to take away my sin.
Chorus*

*4. When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation,
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart.
Then I shall bow, in humble adoration,
And then proclaim: "My God, how great Thou art!"
Chorus*

Act 19:31 *Then some of the officials of Asia, who were his friends, sent to him pleading that he would not venture into the theater.*

Act 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.*

Act 19:33 *And they drew Alexander out of the multitude, the Jews putting him forward. And Alexander motioned with his hand, and wanted to make his defense to the people.*

Act 19:34 *But when they found out that he was a Jew, all with one voice cried out for about two hours, "Great is Diana of the Ephesians!"*

Act 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 Diana, and of the image which fell down from Zeus?"*

Act 19:36 *Therefore, since these things cannot be denied, you ought to be quiet and do nothing rashly.*

Act 19:37 *For you have brought these men here who are neither robbers of temples nor blasphemers of your goddess.*

Act 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.*

Act 19:39 *But if you have any other inquiry to make, it shall be determined in the lawful assembly.*

Act 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."*

Act 19:41 *And when he had said these things, he dismissed the assembly.*

V 31 The principal officers of Asia - The Asian priests, who presided over the public games, which they were then celebrating in honor of Diana.

V 32 The greater part did not know for what they were come together - Which is commonly the case in such an assembly.

V 33 *And they drew Alexander out* - Namely, the artificers and workmen, Alexander - Probably some well - known Christian whom they saw in the crowd: the Jews pushing him on - To expose him to the more danger. And Alexander waving with his hand - In token of desiring silence, would have made a defense - For himself and his brethren.

V 34 *But when they found out that he was a Jew* - And consequently an enemy to their worship of images; they prevented him, by crying, Great is Diana of the Ephesians.

Vs. 35- 36

The city clerk was, of course, a local official who told them that they were making too much out of this whole thing. He says, "Look at this great temple and at the great Diana. Nothing could happen to them. Nothing could be said against them!" Now, of course, they have been in ruins for nearly two thousand years.

V 37 *Nor blasphemers of your goddess* - They simply declared the one God, and the vanity of idols in general.

V 38 *There are proconsuls* - One in every province. There was one at Ephesus.

V 39 *In the lawful assembly* - In such a regular assembly as has authority to judge of religious and political affairs.

Vs. 40-41 He told them that if they had some issue to bring up, they should all sit down and have an orderly meeting. They were to put down their placards and quit their shouting and running around. They were actually in danger of being accused of rioting. Riots are not something new, friend. This whole scene sounds very up to date. He dismissed the crowd. When he called their attention to what they were actually doing, the crowd broke up and the people went home. Paul's ministry in Ephesus is over now. He leaves Ephesus and goes back to Macedonia.

Questions:

1. "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?"

2. Is the translating of when/since significant?

3. How would you relate multiple baptisms with verse 5? Are multiple baptisms okay?

4. How important is it to be baptized in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit?

5. How can you prove baptism is not necessary for salvation from **Mark 16:16**? **"He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned."**

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

How important is the gift of tongues?

7. Act 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.* About how many hours of teaching were done by Paul?

8. In vs. 11/12, who did the miracles?

9. In v. 19 many books of magic were burned. What was their value?

10. What do you see that is significant in v.

37 "...neither robbers of temples nor blasphemers of your goddess." Hint: How do you drive out darkness?

11. vs. 23-41 Where do you suppose the greatest danger lay in this story? From Demetrius the silversmith or from the protection by the government officials?