

NICK STEINLOSKI • EXECUTIVE PASTOR, MINISTRIES • NOVEMBER 23

WHEN FALSE GODS FALL: HOW JESUS RESHAPES A CITY - AND A SOUL

ACTS 19:8-41

INTRODUCTION:

Acts 19 shows what happens when Jesus walks into a life, home, and city: false gods fall.

Observation #1 - A Better Story in a World of Competing Stories (vv. 19:8-10)

Paul enters Ephesus and spends two years reasoning and persuading about the kingdom. Some believe, some resist, but the Gospel keeps spreading.

Truth #1 - Jesus invites us into a <u>BETTER STORY</u>. (Matthew 11:28-30)

Observation #2 - False Gods Can't Give You What Jesus Can (vv. 19:11-20)

Extraordinary things happen: healings, deliverance, public confession, repentance.

The seven sons of Sceva show the danger of using Jesus' name without knowing Him.

Truth #2 - Jesus frees us from the gods that **ENSLAVE**

Observation #3 - When Jesus Threatens Our Economy of Idols (vv. 19:23-41)

Demetrius starts a riot because the Gospel threatens his income. The city is confused, chaotic, and afraid.

Truth #3 - Jesus <u>RESHAPES</u> not just souls, but homes and cities. (Mark 5:1-20)

WHAT'S YOUR NEXT STEP?

- 1. Jesus invites us into a better story.
 - a. Where am I resisting the better story Jesus is inviting me into?
- 2. Jesus frees us from the gods that enslave us.
 - a. What false gods is Jesus asking me to bring into the light?
- 3. Jesus reshapes not just souls, but entire homes and cities.
 - a. Where does my home, or city, need Jesus to reshape it?

