

# Acts of the Apostles 19:8-41 \_ Lesson 44

## *Special Miracles by Paul*

### 1. Acts 19:8-10 – All in Asia

- a. “spake”, “disputing and persuading” → Ministry is first about doctrine not deeds
- b. “concerning the kingdom of God” - not Mark 1:15, but Rom 11:25-26, 1Co 15:23-24
- c. We still dispute concerning the kingdom - 1Co 6:9-10, Co 1:13, Ro 14:17, 2Ti 4:1, 18
- d. “he departed from them” –separation necessary from 1) error 2) affecting others
- e. After 2 years **all** in Asia heard the word (Rom 10:17) ... but 2 Tim 1:15

### 2. Acts 19:11-17 – Special Miracles by the Hands of Paul

- a. Why is this here?
  - i. Jews require a signs (1Co 1:22) → God promised it De 13:1, Ps 74:9, Is 7:14
  - ii. To show Paul’s apostleship - 2 Cor 12:12, Rom 15:18-19
  - iii. To show Israel’s spiritual condition – fallen, fled, naked, wounded, exiled
- b. Jesus’ hem healed - Acts 2:22, Luke 7:20-22; Mark 3:10, Matt 14:36;
- c. Peter’s shadow healed – Acts 5:12-15; Paul’s handkerchiefs brought healing!
- d. Exorcist ~def. One who pretends to expel evil spirits ... Acts 19 (Webster)
- e. 19:15 – It is not uttering the name, it is the authority/power of God
- f. God’s authority of all things given to Jesus, who gave apostleship to Paul –1Co 9:17
- g. 19:18 – Paul’s apostleship magnifies Christ → 80% of Lord, and ~75% of Christ.
  - i. He ministers Christ from beginning to end Rom 1:1, 11:13, 15:16, 16:27
- h. Identifying false prophets requires doctrine -Mt 24:11, 2Pe 2:1, 2Co 11:15, 1Ti 4:1

### 3. Acts 19:18-22 – The Word of God Grows

- a. “many that believed” – Outside the synagogue of hardened Jews rejecting Christ
- b. 19:19 – Magnifying the Lord Jesus results in diminishing false “powers/influence”
- c. “he purposed in the spirit” – Paul purposes to Macedonia, Achaia, Jerusalem, Rome
- d. 19:22 – Timothy sent to Macedonia (not the first or last) Phi 2:19
- e. “grew the word of God” – referring not just to believers, but scripture – 2 Tim 3:17
  - i. Thess already written (Acts 18:5), now Gal (18:23) and 1 Cor – 16:1-10, 19
  - ii. Written from Ephesus after Acts 19:21-22 → 1 Cor 4:17, 15:32

### 4. Acts 19:23-41 – The Loud Noise from the Beasts in Ephesus

- a. “the same time”- This persecution occurs at the same time the word of God grew
- b. The word of God affected the economy and what people spent their money on
- c. The goddess Diana bigger than football – Artemis/Amazon/goddess of war/beasts
- d. The baggage from this religion was what Timothy needed to correct in 1Ti 1:3, 2:13
- e. “full of wrath cried out” ... “for two hours” (34) – they needed to be quiet 1Ti 2:2-9
- f. 19:29-32 – The mass was confused about what they were doing – crowd following
- g. Good ministry = Bad: Alexander 1Ti 1:20, 2Ti 4:14; Good: Onesiphorus 2Ti 1:16-18
- h. 19:35-39 – Many believed, but the town was still pagan – powers that be keep rule
- i. “There being no cause” – Paul remains guiltless; Gentiles blessed; Jews join pagans.