

Acts of the Apostles

41 – The Kinds of People you Meet in Ephesus

Acts 19

Ignorant (v.1-10)

- Those who are ignorant need revelation (not our anger at their ignorance)
 - Spirit came upon them like at Pentecost to confirm / prove that it was genuine – God tends to do that
 - Side note: your baptism may mean one thing to you but may not be what God intended
- The world needs faithful and consistent witness to the Kingdom (two years, “reasoning daily”)
 - Not just once, but ongoing ministry for years, patience and patient teaching overcame their ignorance and was means of revelation

Imposters (v.11-20)

- He didn't sell any of the cloths or ask for a love offering or Faith seed
- Imposters need repentance
 - It's a comedy, for sure – but spiritual powers that are In our world are no joke and not toys - they don't play, so you better not either
 - There will always be people who want to wield spiritual power without attaching themselves to the source or having the character to carry the weight of it – Jafar in Aladdin
 - Sons of Sceva neither knew God nor the power they were reckoning with – ended poorly for them
- Imposters will always be revealed – they will be shown for who they are (and sometimes their demise pushes people to the truth) – count on God to do this because He does NOT like being a tool – DEUT 18.22
 - Frank Abagnale at Google – I didn't have a plan, I didn't have confidence, I didn't know what I was doing. I was an adolescent. And that's how I pulled it off.
 - Often times God purifies before He revives (20)
When He does, it's a kind of purification that is ultimately good for us even though it may be humiliating or painful
- Started with extraordinary miracles (v11) and ends with word of Lord increased and prevailed (v20)

Agendas (v.21-41)

- Their agenda was pushed by their economic urges and desires
- Their agenda refused to hear the other side

- God takes care of agendas just like imposters. Often providential. He won't let agendas ultimately win in the end because he won't let His agenda fail
- What the world needs when an agenda is taken up is ignoring it and keep being faithful in witness. Jesus - John 8