

ROMANS 10:1-2: “Brothers, my heart’s desire and prayer to God for the Israelites is that they may be saved. ² For I can testify about them that they are zealous for God, but their zeal is not based on knowledge.”

3. People who _____ the _____ of God became Christians (Acts 19:11-20).

➤ The Miracles of _____ (19:11-12).

ACTS 19:11-12: “God did extraordinary miracles through Paul, ¹² so that even handkerchiefs and aprons that had touched him were taken to the sick, and their illnesses were cured and the evil spirits left them.”

➤ The _____ Miracles of Some _____ (19:13-16).

ACTS 19:13-16: “Some Jews who went around driving out evil spirits tried to invoke the name of the Lord Jesus over those who were demon-possessed. They would say, “In the name of Jesus, whom Paul preaches, I command you to come out.” ¹⁴ Seven sons of Sceva, a Jewish chief priest, were doing this. ¹⁵ One day the evil spirit answered them, “Jesus I know, and I know about Paul, but who are you?” ¹⁶ Then the man who had the evil spirit jumped on them and overpowered them all. He gave them such a beating that they ran out of the house naked and bleeding.”

RESULT #1: Jesus is held in _____.

ACTS 19:17: “When this became known to the Jews and Greeks living in Ephesus, they were all seized with fear, and the name of the Lord Jesus was held in high honor.”

RESULT #2: A Rejection of _____.

ACTS 19:18-20: “Many of those who believed now came and openly confessed their evil deeds. ¹⁹ A number who had practiced sorcery brought their scrolls together and burned them publicly. When they calculated the value of the scrolls, the total came to fifty thousand drachmas. ²⁰ In this way the word of the Lord spread widely and grew in power.”

4. People who worshipped _____ became Christians (Acts 19:23-41).

ACTS 19:23-41: “About that time there arose a great disturbance about the Way. ²⁴ A silversmith named Demetrius, who made silver shrines of Artemis, brought in no little business for the craftsmen. ²⁵ He called them together, along with the workmen in related trades, and said: “Men, you know we receive a good income from this business. ²⁶ And you see and hear how this fellow Paul has convinced and led astray large numbers of people here in Ephesus and in practically the whole province of Asia. He says that man-made gods are no gods at all. ²⁷ There is danger not only that our trade will lose its good name, but also that the temple of the great goddess Artemis will be discredited, and the goddess herself, who is worshiped throughout the province of Asia and the world, will be robbed of her divine majesty.” ²⁸ When they heard this, they were furious and began shouting: “Great is Artemis of the Ephesians!” ²⁹ Soon the whole city was in an uproar. The people seized Gaius and Aristarchus, Paul’s traveling companions from Macedonia, and rushed as one man into the theater. ³⁰ Paul wanted to appear before the crowd, but the disciples would not let him. ³¹ Even some of the officials of the province, friends of Paul, sent him a message begging him not to venture into the theater. ³² The assembly was in confusion: Some were shouting one thing, some another. Most of the people did not even know why they were there. ³³ The Jews pushed Alexander to the front, and some of the crowd shouted instructions to him. He motioned for silence in order to make a defense before the people. ³⁴ But when they realized he was a Jew, they all shouted in unison for about two hours: “Great is Artemis of the Ephesians!” ³⁵ The city clerk quieted the crowd and said: “Men of Ephesus, doesn’t all the world know that the city of Ephesus is the guardian of the temple of the great Artemis and of her image, which fell from heaven?” ³⁶ Therefore, since these facts are undeniable, you ought to be quiet and not do anything rash. ³⁷ You have brought these men here, though they have neither robbed temples nor blasphemed our goddess. ³⁸ If, then, Demetrius and his fellow craftsmen have a grievance against anybody, the courts are open and there are proconsuls. They can press charges. ³⁹ If there is anything further you want to bring up, it must be settled in a legal assembly. ⁴⁰ As it is, we are in danger of being charged with rioting because of today’s events. In that case we would not be able to account for this commotion, since there is no reason for it.” ⁴¹ After he had said this, he dismissed the assembly.”

FINAL THOUGHTS

As it was in Ephesus, so it is today! Every local Church is started by those willing to sacrifice, serve, and give, so that people from all backgrounds (social, economic, religious and ethnic) can find salvation through Jesus who is the Way, the Truth and the Life (John 14:6).

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

As you begin, open your time together in prayer.

Discussion: What stood out to you personally from this Sunday's message?

1. What were the early believers called according to Acts 11:26? What name was given to *the movement* that they were part of? (See Acts 9:2; 18:24-26; 19:9, 23; 22:4; 24:14, 22). Why were they given that name? (See John 14:6).

2. Are there many paths that lead to God? Is Jesus just one of them? Is it enough to be 'sincere' and 'religious' or 'spiritual' in order to get to heaven? How does John 14:6, Acts 4:12 and the story of Acts 19 help answer this question? Is it okay to have Jesus and other religious or spiritual ideas and views? Can we have both?

3. How does the message of Acts 19 apply to our context and culture in Utah? If Paul was here as a missionary and church planter, what do you think would be his approach and method of reaching the lost?

4. Paul wrote the letter of Ephesians to the church in Ephesus. Compare the 'spiritual' activity of Acts 19:11-41 with Paul's comments in Ephesians 1:18-23; 2:6; 6:10-18. What was the city of Ephesus like? Why did Paul instruct the Ephesian church on the subject of spiritual warfare? Are we in a spiritual war in Utah? How so?

Pray for each others needs.

God's Blueprint For the Church

Today's Message: "*The Making of the Church of God*"

Pastor Cory Anderson / SMC / 09.25.11

Introduction:

1. People who lacked _____ information about Jesus became Christians (Acts 19:1-7).

ACTS 19:1-7: "While Apollos was at Corinth, Paul took the road through the interior and arrived at Ephesus. There he found some disciples ² and asked them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" They answered, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." ³So Paul asked, "Then what baptism did you receive?" "John's baptism," they replied ⁴ Paul said, "John's baptism was a baptism of repentance. He told the people to believe in the one coming after him, that is, in Jesus." ⁵On hearing this, they were baptized into the name of the Lord Jesus. ⁶When Paul placed his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied. ⁷There were about twelve men in all."

2. People who were _____ & _____ became Christians (Acts 19:8-10; 18:18-28)

ACTS 19:8-10: "Paul entered the synagogue and spoke boldly there for three months, arguing persuasively about the kingdom of God. ⁹But some of them became obstinate; they refused to believe and publicly maligned the Way. So Paul left them. He took the disciples with him and had discussions daily in the lecture hall of Tyrannus. ¹⁰This went on for two years, so that all the Jews and Greeks who lived in the province of Asia heard the word of the Lord."

ROMANS 9:1-4: "I speak the truth in Christ—I am not lying, my conscience confirms it in the Holy Spirit— ²I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. ³For I could wish that I myself were cursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, those of my own race, ⁴the people of Israel."