



Revival

Acts 19

11.18.18

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Acts 19:23-29

About that time there arose a great disturbance about the Way. A silversmith named Demetrius, who made silver shrines of Artemis, brought in a lot of business for the craftsmen there. He called them together, along with the workers in related trades, and said: "You know, my friends, that we receive a good income from this business. 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 gods made by human hands are no gods at all. 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.” When they heard this, they were furious and began shouting: “Great is Artemis of the Ephesians!” Soon the whole city was in an uproar. The people seized Gaius and Aristarchus, Paul’s traveling companions from Macedonia, and all of them rushed into the theater together.

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 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.”

So Paul asked, “Then what baptism did you receive?”

“John’s baptism,” they replied.

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.” On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. When Paul placed his hands on

them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied. There were about twelve men in all.

1. The Church was filled with the Holy Spirit.

Acts 19:8-12

Paul entered the synagogue and spoke boldly there for three months, arguing persuasively about the kingdom of God. But 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. This 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. God did extraordinary miracles through Paul, 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.

2. The Church had a courageous missional presence in the city.

Acts 19:17-20

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. Many of those who

believed now came and openly confessed what they had done. 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. In this way the word of the Lord spread widely and grew in power.

3. The Church gave up it's idols.

An idol is anything that gives you meaning, purpose, significance or identity outside of God.

“The Welsh revival in 1904 was marked by a passion for purity. Holiness was the consistent theme as one hundred thousand new converts rejected their sinful lives, confessed Christ, and joined the church. But this change in their lives had a profound impact on culture. It was reported that pit ponies could no longer work because they didn't recognize the commands of the converted miners, who no longer swore, cursed, and beat the ponies. The standard of living went up, and health and literacy improved as money previously wasted on alcohol was invested in the home, clothing, food, and books. Pubs closed as [abstaining from alcohol] became the norm. Magistrates were left with fewer cases to try as crime diminished. Old debts were paid. The streets were peaceful; swearing was seldom heard. Cardiff

Jail had a period with no inmates. New Year's Eve week, there was not one arrest for drunkenness. The police were employed to do nothing."

- Simon Ponsonby