

Ephesus
Lesson #13
Acts 19:1-22

Paul's Third Missionary Journey

After spending time with the church at Antioch, Syria, Paul headed back to the city of Ephesus where he would stay for the next three years. This third journey began by traveling through Galatia and Phrygia to strengthen the disciples in those provinces. By the time Paul arrived in Ephesus, Apollos had moved on to Corinth.

Paul at Ephesus - Acts 19:1-4

1. When Paul first arrived at Ephesus, what did he ask the believers? (Acts 19:2a)

- What was their surprising answer? (Acts 19:2b)

2. This led Paul to a second, important question. What did he ask? (Acts 19:3a)

- What was that answer? (Acts 19:3b)

3. Seeking to give clarity to their understanding, what was Paul's explanation? (Acts 19:4)

Review of John the Baptist - Luke 1:12-3:16

4. In his first letter to Theophilus, Dr. Luke began with a narrative about the birth of John the Baptist. (This story is recorded in Luke 1:5-80.) Using Luke 1:12 - 17, make a list of what the angel of the Lord told Zechariah about his yet unborn son.

5. Just as the angel had foretold, John became that powerful prophet of the Lord. During the time that Jesus was preparing for his ministry, what was John doing? (Luke 3:2, 3)

6. What question was on the minds of the people as they went into the wilderness to see John? (Luke 3:15)

7. Knowing what they were thinking, how did John address that question? (Luke 3:16)

8. How did the life of this powerful prophet of the Lord end? (Luke 9:9a - for the complete story see Matthew 14:1-12)

The Holy Spirit - Acts 19:5-7

9. After Paul explained the meaning of John and his baptism, what happened next? (Acts 19:5-7)

Paul's Ministry in Ephesus - Acts 19:8-12

10. Whenever Paul entered a new city, his location preference for sharing the Gospel was always the local Jewish synagogue. How long was Paul able to speak boldly in the synagogue at Ephesus? (Acts 19:8)

11. What was the reason that Paul left that synagogue? (Acts 19:9a, b)

12. Dr. Luke used the term "The Way" several times in the book of Acts. And, each time it was spoken by those who opposed the Gospel. What may have been the source of that term? (John 14:6)

13. When Paul did leave the synagogue at Ephesus, what did he do? (Acts 19:9c)

14. Using Acts 19:10:
 - How long did this go on?

 - What was the result?

15. In addition to Paul's powerful Holy Spirit inspired preaching, what other means did God use to authenticate Paul as His servant? (Acts 19:11, 12)

The Seven Sons of Sceva - Acts 19:13-20

16. The power of the Lord displayed in the life of Paul brought jealousy, especially among those whose occupation was casting out demons. What did these men try to do? (Acts 19:13)

17. The reader is introduced to several of these men, the seven sons of Sceva. Who was Sceva? (Acts 19:14)

18. Luke recalled a time when the evil spirit spoke to the sons of Sceva. What did the evil spirit say? (Acts 19:15)

19. What happened after that? (Acts 19:16)

20. **Reflect:** These men tried to “use” the name of Jesus for personal gain, but that could not and would not be allowed. Look closely at the question posed by the evil spirit; does anything stand out to you?
21. News travels fast, and dramatic or shocking news travels even faster. What was the reaction of the people when this news became known?
- Acts 19:17

 - Acts 19:18

 - Acts 19:19

 - Acts 19:20
22. Paul decided to return to Jerusalem traveling the route that would take him through the regions of Macedonia and Achaia so he could once again encourage the believers. But Jerusalem was not his ultimate destination. After a brief visit there, where did Paul say he planned to go? (Acts 19:21)
23. To prepare for this journey, what did Paul do? (Acts 19:22)