

# The Acts of the Apostles

Lesson 16: Paul's Third Missionary Journey

Acts 18:23 to 21:15

Paul's second mission ended where it began, in Antioch of Syria.



### Acts 18:23

And after he had spent some time *there*, he departed, and went over *all* the country of Galatia and Phrygia in order, strengthening all the disciples.



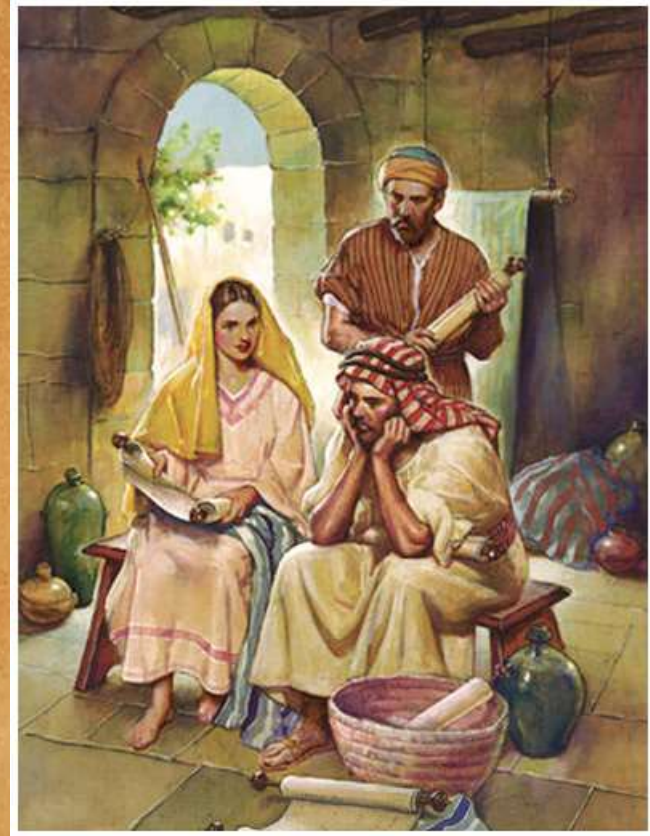
## Acts 18:24-26a

- <sup>24</sup> And a certain Jew named Apollos, born at Alexandria, an eloquent man, *and* mighty in the scriptures, came to Ephesus.
- <sup>25</sup> This man was instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in the spirit, he spake and taught diligently the things of the Lord, knowing only the baptism of John.
- <sup>26</sup> And he began to speak boldly in the synagogue:



**Acts 18:26b**

... whom when Aquila and Priscilla had heard, they took him unto *them*, and expounded unto him the way of God more perfectly.



## Acts 18:27-28

<sup>27</sup> And when he was disposed to pass into Achaia, the brethren wrote, exhorting the disciples to receive him: who, when he was come, helped them much which had believed through grace:

<sup>28</sup> For he mightily convinced the Jews, *and that* publicly, shewing by the scriptures that Jesus was Christ.



## Acts 19:1-2a

- 1 And it came to pass, that, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul having passed through the upper coasts came to Ephesus, and finding certain disciples,
- 2 He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed?



### **Acts 19:2b-3**

- <sup>2b</sup> And they said unto him,  
We have not so much as heard  
whether there be any Holy Ghost.
- <sup>3</sup> And he said unto them, Unto  
what then were ye baptized?  
And they said,  
Unto John's baptism.





## Acts 19:4-5

- 4 Then said Paul,  
John verily baptized with the  
baptism of repentance, saying  
unto the people, that they should  
believe on him which should come  
after him, that is, on Christ Jesus.
- 5 When they heard *this*,  
they were baptized in the name of  
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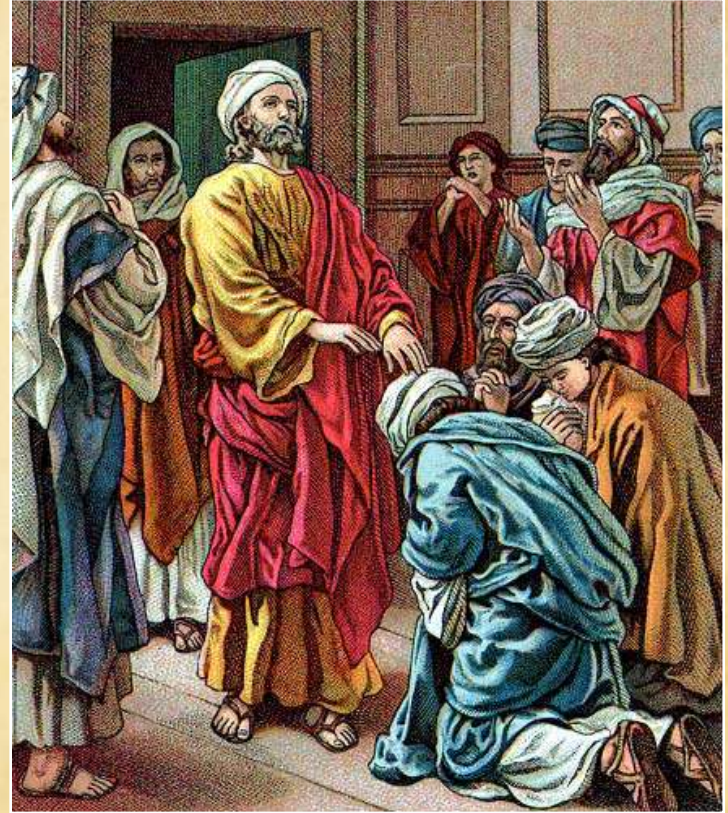


The baptism of John the Baptist was a baptism of repentance in preparation for the first coming of Christ.

Baptism in the name of Jesus Christ acknowledges the finished work of Christ on the cross.

## Acts 19:6-7

- <sup>6</sup> And when Paul had laid *his* hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied.
- <sup>7</sup> And all the men were about twelve.



## Acts 19:6-7

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From this small beginning grew a revival that reached all of Asia Minor in two years.



## Acts 19:8-10

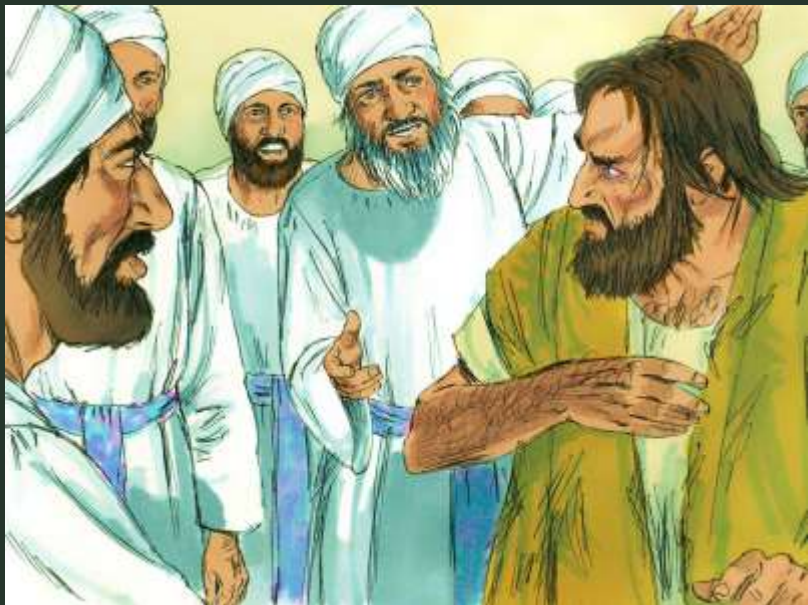
- 8 And he went into the synagogue, and spake boldly for the space of three months, disputing and persuading the things concerning the kingdom of God.
- 9 But when divers were hardened, and believed not, but spake evil of that way before the multitude, he departed from them, and separated the disciples, disputing daily in the school of one Tyrannus.
- 10 And this continued by the space of two years; so that all they which dwelt in Asia heard the word of the Lord Jesus, both Jews and Greeks.



## **Acts 19:11-12**

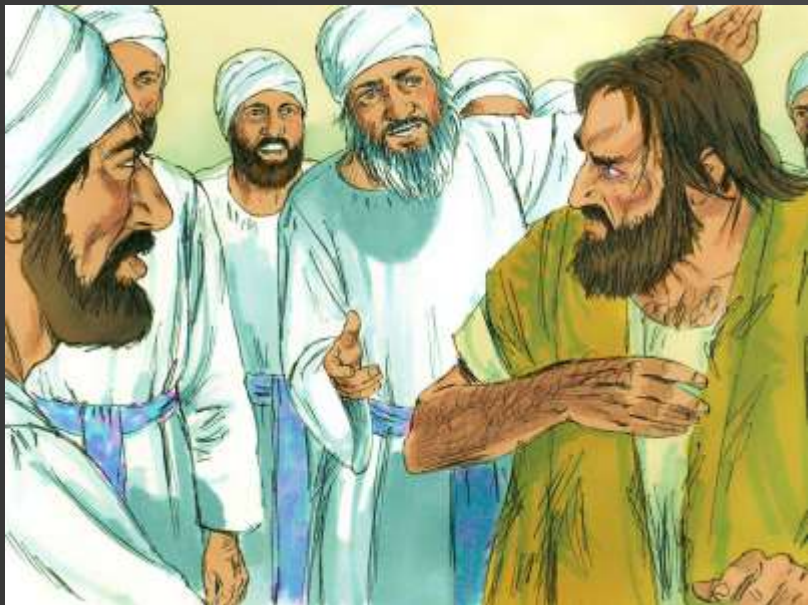
- <sup>11</sup> And God wrought special miracles by the hands of Paul:
- <sup>12</sup> So that from his body were brought unto the sick handkerchiefs or aprons, and the diseases departed from them, and the evil spirits went out of them.





But some wanted to exercise spiritual power without walking in the fear of God.





### Acts 19:13-14

- <sup>13</sup> Then certain of the vagabond Jews, exorcists, took upon them to call over them which had evil spirits the name of the Lord Jesus, saying, We adjure you by Jesus whom Paul preacheth.
- <sup>14</sup> And there were seven sons of *one* Sceva, a Jew, *and* chief of the priests, which did so.

### Acts 19:15-16

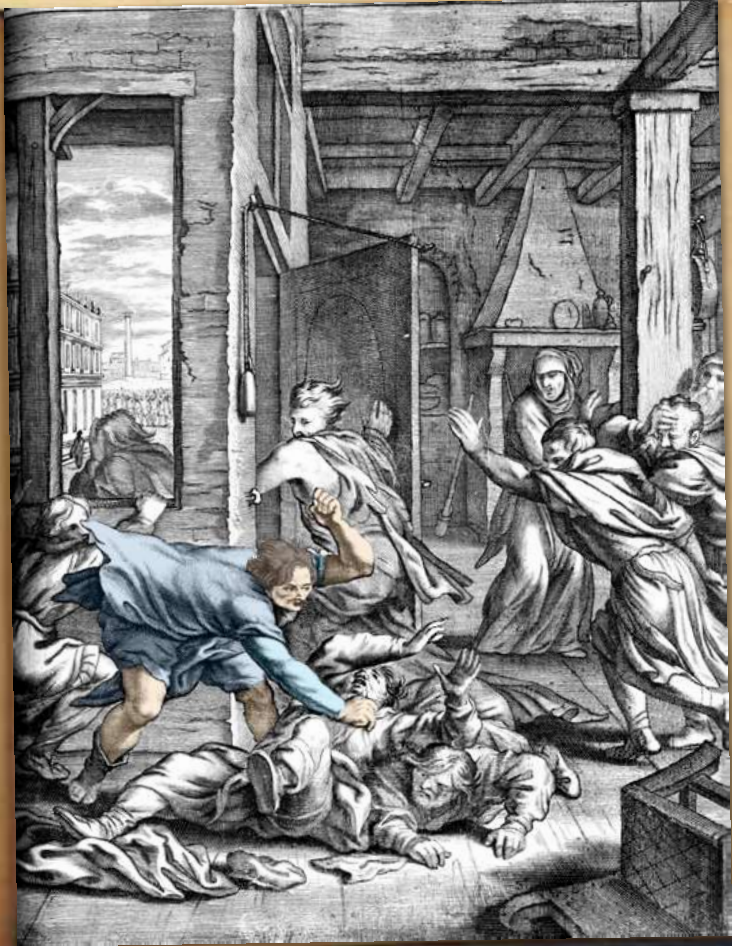
<sup>15</sup> And the evil spirit answered and said, Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are ye?

<sup>16</sup> And the man in whom the evil spirit was leaped on them, and overcame them, and prevailed against them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded.



## Acts 19:17-18

- <sup>17</sup> And this was known to all the Jews and Greeks also dwelling at Ephesus; and fear fell on them all, and the name of the Lord Jesus was magnified.
- <sup>18</sup> And many that believed came, and confessed, and shewed their deeds.



## Acts 19:19-20

- <sup>19</sup> Many of them also which used curious arts brought their books together, and burned them before all men: and they counted the price of them, and found it fifty thousand *pieces* of silver.
- <sup>20</sup> So mightily grew the word of God and prevailed.

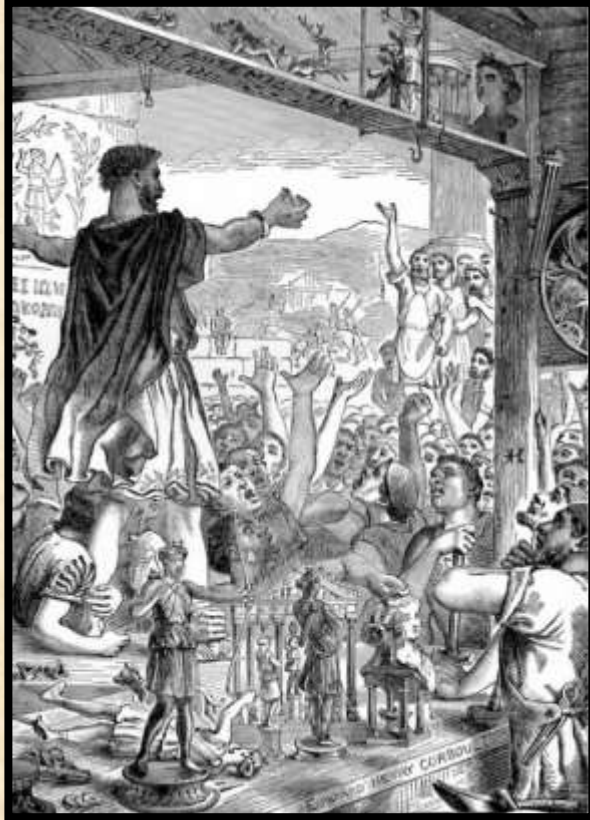


## Acts 19:21-22

- <sup>21</sup> After these things were ended, Paul purposed in the spirit, when he had passed through Macedonia and Achaia, to go to Jerusalem, saying, After I have been there, I must also see Rome.
- <sup>22</sup> So he sent into Macedonia two of them that ministered unto him, Timothy and Erastus; but he himself stayed in Asia for a season.



In Ephesus, the followers of the goddess Diana stirred up trouble against Paul.

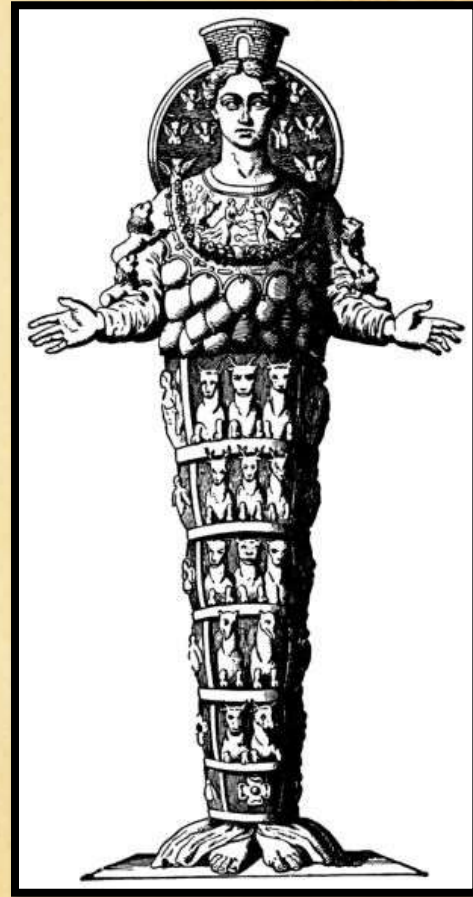


### Acts 19:23-26

- <sup>23</sup> And the same time there arose no small stir about that way.
- <sup>24</sup> For a certain *man* named Demetrius, a silversmith, which made silver shrines for Diana, brought no small gain unto the craftsmen;
- <sup>25</sup> Whom he called together with the workmen of like occupation, and said, Sirs, ye know that by this craft we have our wealth.
- <sup>26</sup> Moreover ye see and hear, that not alone at Ephesus, but almost throughout all Asia, this Paul hath persuaded and turned away much people, saying that they be no gods, which are made with hands:

## Acts 19:27-28

- <sup>27</sup> So that not only this our craft is in danger to be set at nought; but also that the temple of the great goddess Diana should be despised, and her magnificence should be destroyed, whom all Asia and the world worshippeth.
- <sup>28</sup> And when they heard *these sayings*, they were full of wrath, and cried out, saying, Great *is* Diana of the Ephesians.



## Acts 19:29-31

- <sup>29</sup> And the whole city was filled with confusion:  
and having caught Gaius and Aristarchus, men of Macedonia, Paul's companions in travel, they rushed with one accord into the theatre.
- <sup>30</sup> And when Paul would have entered in unto the people, the disciples suffered him not.
- <sup>31</sup> And certain of the chief of Asia, which were his friends, sent unto him, desiring *him* that he would not adventure himself into the theatre.



Roman amphitheater in Ephesus



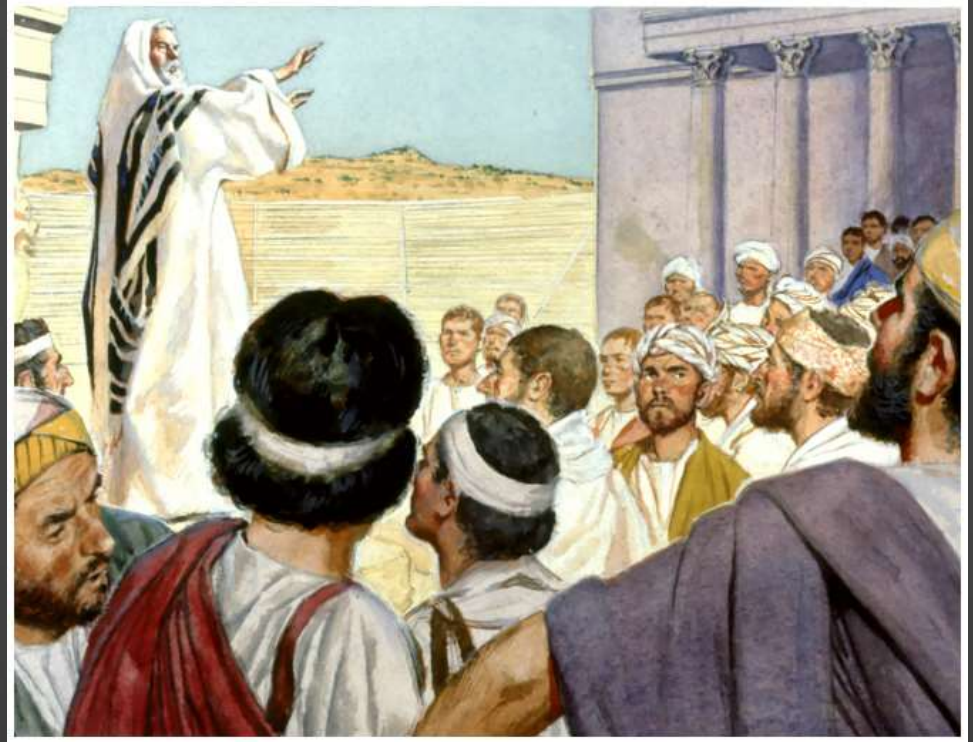
## Acts 19:32-34

<sup>32</sup> Some therefore cried one thing, and some another: for the assembly was confused; and the more part knew not wherefore they were come together.

<sup>33</sup> And they drew Alexander out of the multitude, the Jews putting him forward.

And Alexander beckoned with the hand, and would have made his defence unto the people.

<sup>34</sup> But when they knew that he was a Jew, all with one voice about the space of two hours cried out, Great is Diana of the Ephesians.



## Acts 19:35-37

- <sup>35</sup> And when the townclerk had appeased the people, he said,  
Ye men of Ephesus,  
what man is there that knoweth not how that the city of the Ephesians is a  
worshipper of the great goddess Diana, and of the *image* which fell down from  
Jupiter?
- <sup>36</sup> Seeing then that these things cannot be spoken against,  
ye ought to be quiet, and to do nothing rashly.
- <sup>37</sup> For ye have brought hither these men, which are neither robbers of churches,  
nor yet blasphemers of your goddess.

## **Acts 19:38-41**

- 38 Wherefore if Demetrius, and the craftsmen which are with him,  
have a matter against any man,  
the law is open, and there are deputies: let them implead one another.
- 39 But if ye enquire any thing concerning other matters,  
it shall be determined in a lawful assembly.
- 40 For we are in danger to be called in question for this day's uproar,  
there being no cause whereby we may give an account of this concourse.
- 41 And when he had thus spoken, he dismissed the assembly.

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End of Chapter 19

## Acts 20:1

And after the uproar was ceased, Paul called unto *him* the disciples, and embraced *them*, and departed for to go into Macedonia.



## Acts 20:2-3a

- 2 And when he had gone over those parts, and had given them much exhortation, he came into Greece,
- 3 And there abode three months ...



## Acts 20:3b

<sup>3b</sup> ... And when the Jews laid wait for him, as he was about to sail into Syria, he purposed to return through Macedonia.



## Acts 20:4-5

- 4 And there accompanied him into Asia Sopater of Berea; and of the Thessalonians, Aristarchus and Secundus; and Gaius of Derbe, and Timotheus; and of Asia, Tychicus and Trophimus.
- 5 These going before tarried for us at Troas.





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Only a few of Paul's companions (Luke being among them) went with him into Greece. The others ministered in Asia Minor intending to reunite with Paul in Troas.

### **Acts 20:6**

And we sailed away from Philippi after the days of unleavened bread, and came unto them to Troas in five days; where we abode seven days.



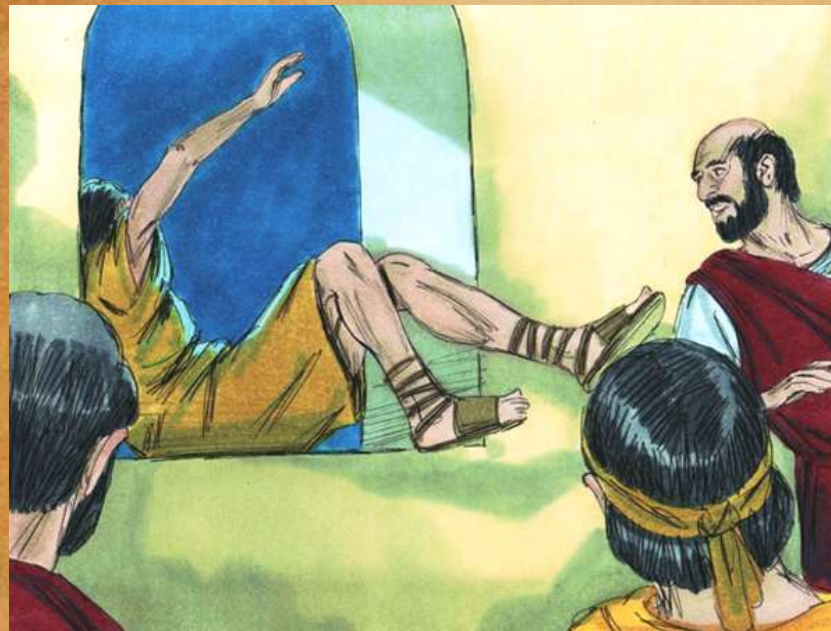
## Acts 20:7-8

- 7 And upon the first *day* of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight.
- 8 And there were many lights in the upper chamber, where they were gathered together.



## Acts 20:9

<sup>9</sup> And there sat in a window a certain young man named Eutychus, being fallen into a deep sleep: and as Paul was long preaching, he sunk down with sleep, and fell down from the third loft, and was taken up dead.



## Acts 20:10-12

- <sup>10</sup> And Paul went down, and fell on him, and embracing *him* said, Trouble not yourselves; for his life is in him.
- <sup>11</sup> When he therefore was come up again, and had broken bread, and eaten, and talked a long while, even till break of day, so he departed.
- <sup>12</sup> And they brought the young man alive, and were not a little comforted.



### Acts 20:13

And we went before to ship,  
and sailed unto Assos, there  
intending to take in Paul:  
for so had he appointed,  
minding himself to go afoot.



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Luke's party sailed ahead to Assos, but Paul traveled by land and met them there.

## Acts 20:14-15

14 And when he met with us at Assos, we took him in, and came to Mitylene.

15 And we sailed thence, and came the next *day* over against Chios; and the next *day* we arrived at Samos, and tarried at Trogyllium; and the next *day* we came to Miletus.





## Acts 20:16-17

- <sup>16</sup> For Paul had determined to sail by Ephesus, because he would not spend the time in Asia: for he hasted, if it were possible for him, to be at Jerusalem the day of Pentecost.
- <sup>17</sup> And from Miletus he sent to Ephesus, and called the elders of the church.



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In Miletus, Paul exhorted and charged the church elders from Ephesus.

## Acts 20:18-21

- <sup>18</sup> And when they were come to him, he said unto them, Ye know, from the first day that I came into Asia, after what manner I have been with you at all seasons,
- <sup>19</sup> Serving the Lord with all humility of mind, and with many tears, and temptations, which befell me by the lying in wait of the Jews:
- <sup>20</sup> And how I kept back nothing that was profitable unto you, but have shewed you, and have taught you publickly, and from house to house,
- <sup>21</sup> Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.



## Acts 20:22-24

- 22 And now, behold, I go bound in the spirit unto Jerusalem, not knowing the things that shall befall me there:
- 23 Save that the Holy Ghost witnesseth in every city, saying that bonds and afflictions abide me.
- 24 But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God.

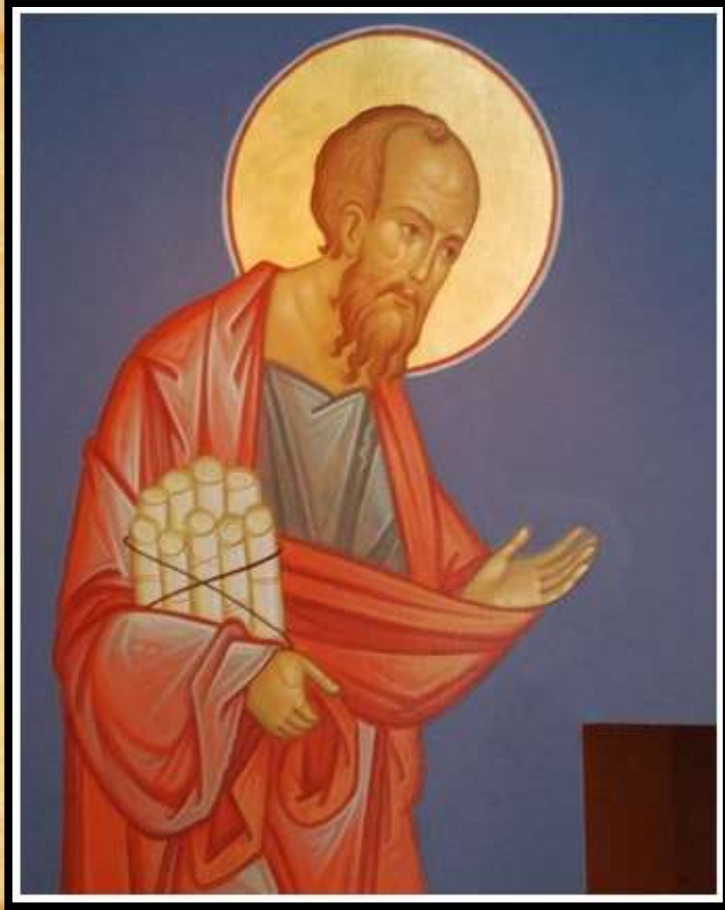


## Acts 20:22-24

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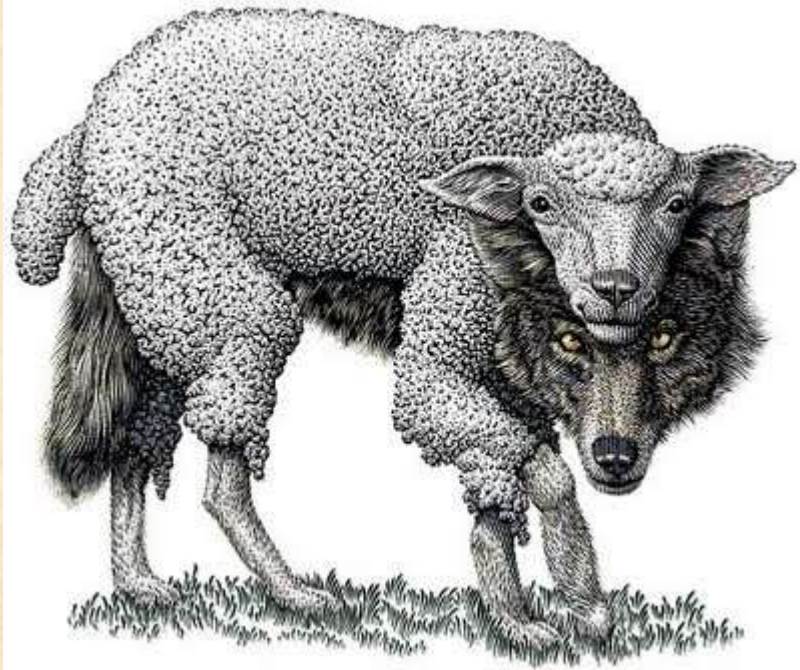
God was preparing Paul for the trouble he would face in Jerusalem.





### **Acts 20:25-27**

- <sup>25</sup> And now, behold, I know that ye all, among whom I have gone preaching the kingdom of God, shall see my face no more.
- <sup>26</sup> Wherefore I take you to record this day, that I *am* pure from the blood of all men.
- <sup>27</sup> For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God.



## **Acts 20:28-31**

- <sup>28</sup> Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.
- <sup>29</sup> For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock.
- <sup>30</sup> Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them.
- <sup>31</sup> Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears.

## Acts 20:32-35

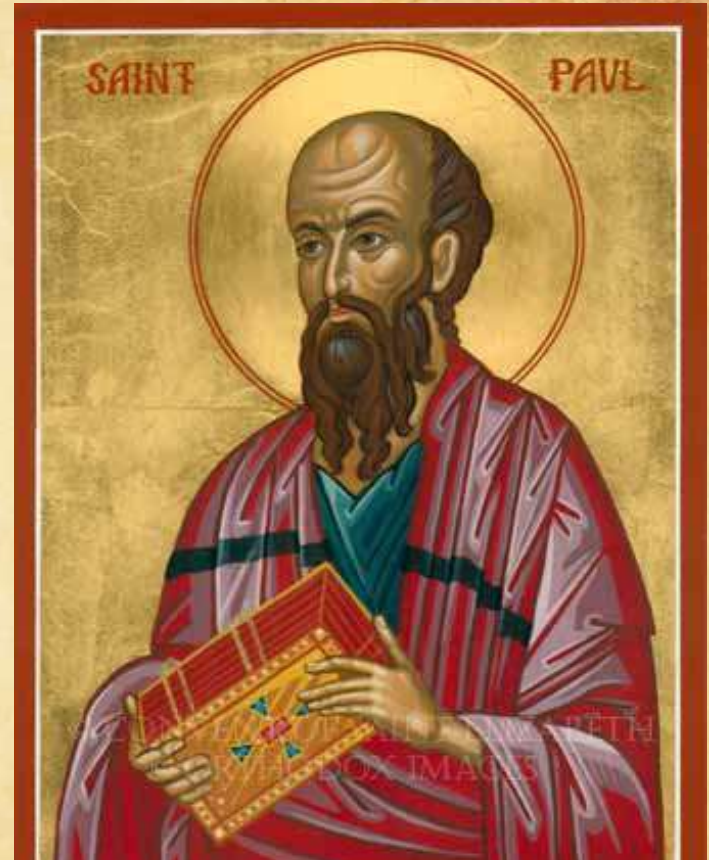
- <sup>32</sup> And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified.
- <sup>33</sup> I have coveted no man's silver, or gold, or apparel.
- <sup>34</sup> Yea, ye yourselves know, that these hands have ministered unto my necessities, and to them that were with me.
- <sup>35</sup> I have shewed you all things, how that so labouring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive.





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Interestingly, this quotation is not found in the Gospels.



### **Acts 20:36-38**

- <sup>36</sup> And when he had thus spoken, he kneeled down, and prayed with them all.
- <sup>37</sup> And they all wept sore, and fell on Paul's neck, and kissed him,
- <sup>38</sup> Sorrowing most of all for the words which he spake, that they should see his face no more.
- And they accompanied him unto the ship.



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End of Chapter 20

## Acts 21:1

And it came to pass, that after we were gotten from them, and had launched, we came with a straight course unto Coos, and the *day* following unto Rhodes, and from thence unto Patara:



## Acts 21:2-3

- 2 And finding a ship sailing over unto Phenicia, we went aboard, and set forth.
- 3 Now when we had discovered Cyprus, we left it on the left hand, and sailed into Syria, and landed at Tyre: for there the ship was to unlade her burden.





### **Acts 21:4-6**

- 4 And finding disciples, we tarried there seven days: who said to Paul through the Spirit, that he should not go up to Jerusalem.
- 5 And when we had accomplished those days, we departed and went our way; and they all brought us on our way, with wives and children, till we were out of the city: and we kneeled down on the shore, and prayed.
- 6 And when we had taken our leave one of another, we took ship; and they returned home again.



The Holy Spirit directed Paul to *delay* his departure to Jerusalem. But after they had “accomplished those days,” they were free to continue their journey.

We can only guess the reasons for the delay (Pirates? Storms at sea?). But had they not obeyed, they would have missed their divine appointment with Agabus.

## Acts 21:7-8

- 7 And when we had finished our course from Tyre, we came to Ptolemais, and saluted the brethren, and abode with them one day.
- 8 And the next day we that were of Paul's company departed, and came unto Caesarea:







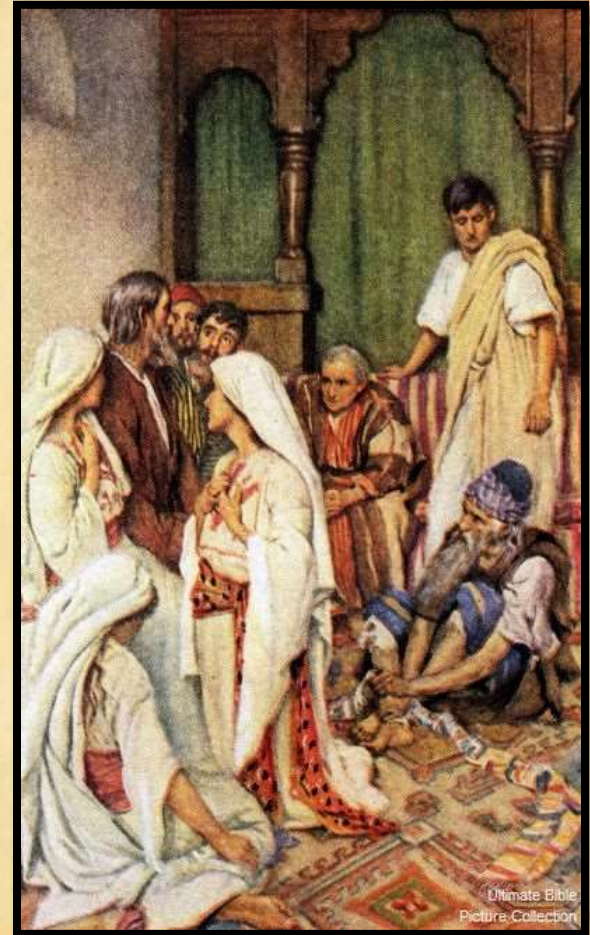
### Acts 21:8b-9

...and we entered into the house of Philip the evangelist, which was one of the seven; and abode with him.

9 And the same man had four daughters, virgins, which did prophesy.

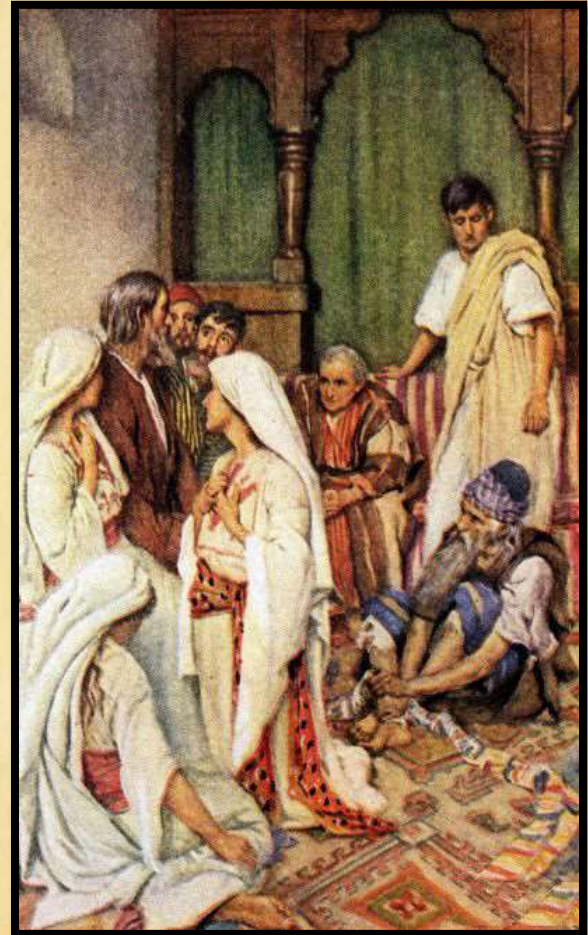
## Acts 21:10-11

- <sup>10</sup> And as we tarried *there* many days, there came down from Judaea a certain prophet, named Agabus.
- <sup>11</sup> And when he was come unto us, he took Paul's girdle, and bound his own hands and feet, and said, Thus saith the Holy Ghost, So shall the Jews at Jerusalem bind the man that owneth this girdle, and shall deliver *him* into the hands of the Gentiles.



### **Acts 21:12-14**

- <sup>12</sup> And when we heard these things, both we, and they of that place, besought him not to go up to Jerusalem.
- <sup>13</sup> Then Paul answered, What mean ye to weep and to break mine heart? for I am ready not to be bound only, but also to die at Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus.
- <sup>14</sup> And when he would not be persuaded, we ceased, saying, The will of the Lord be done.



### Acts 21:15

And after those days we took up our carriages, and went up to Jerusalem.



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And after those days we took up our carriages, and went up to Jerusalem.

This is where Paul's third mission ends.



UP NEXT: Trouble in Jerusalem

## Questions to test your understanding of this lesson:

1. In what city did Aquila and Priscila meet Apollos?
2. According to Acts 18:27, after Apollos was better instructed, where did he go?
3. In Acts 19:4-5, the believers at Ephesus has been baptized according to the teachings of \_\_\_\_\_ only, so Paul baptized them in the name of \_\_\_\_\_.
4. According to Acts 19:7, how many men did Paul minister to in Ephesus?
5. According to Acts 19:10, how long did Paul teach in Ephesus?
6. Who did the people of Ephesus worship?
7. What happened to the young man named Eutychus in Troas?
8. What was Paul's warning in Acts 20:29-30? Does this still happen today?
9. Where did Paul stay in Caesarea?
10. What was the name of the prophet who warned Paul of the trouble he would face in Jerusalem?

Each question is worth 10 points. Do NOT share your answers with other students.



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