

Beulah Missionary Baptist Church
 Noon Day Prayer – Bible Study
 Rev. Jerry D. Black, Pastor



03 March 2021
 12:00 Noon

Lesson #42 Imposters to the Holy Spirit

Scripture: Acts 19:1 – 41

Emphasis: Acts 19:14 - 15

“And there were seven sons of one Sceva, a Jew, and chief of the priests, which did so. 15 And the evil spirit answered and said, Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are ye?”

Subject: “But Who Are You?”

Background: In Acts Chapter 18, Paul has come to Corinth where he meets a Jew name Aquilla and his wife Priscilla, who were tent makers. Aquilla and his wife Priscilla became a Great Help and Resources to Paul’s Ministry by their continued Support. Hospitality, Sharing and Works are Vital Tools that can assist any Ministry. These are Gifts given be the Holy Spirit. When we give our lives to Christ, we should be willing share and give unto the Ministry with our Time, Talent, and our Resources. Athens was the Epicenter of Greek Mythology, Corinth was wickedness.

Christ, through a vision told Paul to Preach Boldly in His Name. Athens is where Paul addressed an audience that worshiped an Unknown God.

Introduction: In this Twenty Third Lesson of the Book of Acts, we will continue our study in the Book of Acts of the Apostles in Chapter 19. Paul has come to Ephesus where he meets a few Disciples who did not know about Jesus or who had received the Holy Spirit. Paul Preaches Christ to them and they become Baptized with the Holy Spirit. Unlike and other regions, Paul is able to stay in Ephesus for over three years. Paul was very Affective in this region and much Fruit was gained by the Churches in Ephesus at the hands of Paul.

Lesson Topic #1 Acts 19:1 – 10

“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? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost. 3 And he said unto them, Unto what then were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism. 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 the Lord Jesus. 6 And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied. 7 And all the men were about twelve. 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.”

- Have you received the Holy Spirit?
 - Fact #1 Believe on the Lord Christ Jesus
 - There was plenty of Preaching in the World back then and right now; however, getting the right message is better than Volume
 - Preaching and Teaching in Jesus name is Important
 - Preaching Christ Crucified, Buried and Raised from the Dead
 - Fact #2 Receiving the Holy Spirit is Vital
 - Jesus told His Disciples that they would Receive the Holy Spirit
 - We Must Believe that Jesus is Lord who died for our Sins
 - There will be Evidence that you are Saved and Received His Spirit
 - Fact #3 The Way or the Christian Life
 - Paul was never satisfied with Spreading the Gospel to a few
 - Paul was an Apostle to the Gentiles, but he continued Preaching, Persuading and Teaching the Jews that Jesus was the Christ
 - Paul Ministered unto the both the Jews and the Greeks in Ephesus

Lesson Topic #2 Acts 19:11 – 20

“11 And God wrought special miracles by the hands of Paul: 12 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. 13 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. 14 And there were seven sons of one Sceva, a Jew, and chief of the priests, which did so. 15 And the evil spirit answered and said, Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are ye? 16 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. 17 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. 18 And many that believed came, and confessed, and shewed their deeds. 19 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. 20 So mightily grew the word of God and prevailed.”

- Paul was Able to Heal in Jesus Name
 - Realities #1 Special Miracles at Paul’s Hands
 - Paul, just like Peter had been given the Special Gift of Healing
 - Paul was so Effective in Healing that things he touched were used
 - Those who were Sick, Diseased and Possessed were Delivered
 - Realities #2 Copy Cats Use Shortcuts
 - The Vagabond (wanderers) Jews who traveled from town-to-town charging to Exorcise people with evil spirits observed Paul’s work
 - When you are Engaged in Doing God’s Work, you will get Noticed
 - You cannot be Involved in doing the devil’s work and Use Jesus
 - Even the evil spirits will call you out to be a Fraud or Phony
 - Realities #3 News of Scams and Phonies Travel Fast
 - Jews and Greeks heard the word about the evil spirits’ Declaration
 - Fear fell upon them and many Believed in Christ Jesus
 - Many Confessed, Burned their Books, Changed and gave their lives

Lesson Topic #3 Acts 19:21 – 29

“21 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. 22 So he sent into Macedonia two of them that ministered unto him, Timotheus and Erastus; but he himself stayed in Asia for a season. 23 And the same time there arose no small stir about that way. 24 For a certain man named Demetrius, a silversmith, which made silver shrines for Diana, brought no small gain unto the craftsmen; 25 Whom he called together with the workmen of like occupation, and said, Sirs, ye know that by this craft we

have our wealth. 26 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: 27 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. 28 And when they heard these sayings, they were full of wrath, and cried out, saying, Great is Diana of the Ephesians. 29 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.”

Things Happen When There Is A Loss In Revenue

- Truths #1 Paul Decides to Stay Ephesus to Minister
 - Paul had a Special Affection for the People of Ephesus
 - Paul sent his Well-Trained, Trustworthy Assistants to Macedonia
 - Paul Preached and Ministered to the Ephesians for over three years
- Truths #2 Unwanted Attention and Opposition
 - Paul, based on previous encounters, could measure the Effectiveness of his Ministry by the Amount of Opposition
 - Time after time, Paul had to leave a city Prematurely because of the Extreme Opposition to the his Ministry, but Paul stayed in Ephesus
 - Paul was making headway of bringing Light into some Dark Places
- Truths #3 The Silversmith Diane Shrine Makers are Losing Money
 - Ephesians in large numbers were no longer worshiping false gods
 - The Demand for replicas/idols for the Greek goddess Diane shrunk
 - The Suppliers for replicas/idols were not going to watch their business Crumble without a Fight and Christianity Must be Stopped

“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.”

Conclusion: Paul knows that Epicenter of Wickedness Resides in Rome

Exercise our **Faith** and **Act** on our **Faith** accordingly. The Bible says that we are to be **Doers** of God’s **Word** and not just **Hearers** only.

Let us Pray

Acknowledgements