Acts 19

Awareness and Authority



"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, "Johns 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.

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 extra ordinary 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.

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 who Paul preaches, I command you to come out." Seven sons of Sceva, a Jewish chief priest, were doing this.

One day the evil spirit answered them, "Jesus I know, and Paul I know about, but who are you?"

Then the man who had the evil spirit jumped on them and overpowered them all. He gave them such beating that they ran out of the house naked and bleeding.

Phillipians 2:11

At the mention of the name of Jesus every knee shall bow, of those in heaven, those on earth and those under the earth and that every tongue shall confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the Glory of God the Father.

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.

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 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 our good name, but also that the temple of the great goddess Artemis will be discredited; and that the goddess herself who is worshipped throughout the province of Asia and the world will be robbed of her divine majesty."



The assembly was in confusion; Some were shouting one thing. Some another. Most of the people did not even know why they were there.

1 Peter 5:8

Be sober minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

2 Corinthians 2:10-11
Anyone you forgive, I also forgive.
And what I have forgiven- if there was anything to forgive- I have forgiven in the sight of Christ for your sake.

In order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes.

James 3:14-18

But if you have bitter envy and self seeking in your hearts, do not boast and lie abasing the truth. This wisdom does not descend from above, but is earthly, sensual and demonic. For where envy and self seeking exist, confusion and every evil thing are there.

But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and fruit of good deeds. It shows no favoritism and is always sincere.

Those who are peacemakers will plant seeds of peace and reap a harvest of righteousness.

Mark 16:17-18

And these signs will accompany those who believe; in my name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues; they will pick up servants with their hands and if they drink any deadly poison, it will not hurt them. They will lay their hands on the sick and they will recover.