

#6 Ephesus (transcript)

We are here at Ephesus, awesome place. It's very biblically significant in multiple different facets. There's of course the letter to the Ephesians. As we learned about, there's the riot at Ephesus that happened over there. But I'm going to be reading some as far as what happened within the Acts of the Apostles.

If you guys want to turn with me, I'm going to turn to Acts. We're going to be looking at Apollos and then Paul in Acts 18. I just really thought it would be important to read the Scripture once we're actually here at the site. It says in

Acts 18:24, 25:

And a certain Jew named Apollos, born at Alexandria, an eloquent man, and mighty in the scriptures, came to Ephesus.

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.

He knew a certain amount. He didn't know the full context. He wasn't aware of the events of Acts 2. He knew part of the Scripture. He knew part of what had been taught, the baptism of John.

Acts 18:26, 27:

And he began to speak boldly in the synagogue: whom when Aquila and Priscilla had heard, they took him unto them, and expounded unto him the way of God more perfectly.

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: For he mightily convinced the Jews, and that publicly, shewing by the scriptures that Jesus was Christ.

Of course, there's a lot of debate as far as who Jesus was, whether he's just a man. As we learned through the ecumenical councils, someone thought other, his deity was something else other than man.

As the Scripture says, and as we believe, you know, Jesus was the Christ, he was the Messiah. And, of course, that was what was being preached and people were being reminded of. Now I'm going to be talking about Paul in Ephesus, in Acts 19.

Acts 19:1-4:

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,

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.

And he said unto them, Unto what then were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism.

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.

Even with John's ministry, there's somebody that was coming after him. Somebody whose sandals he wasn't worthy to untie. Those are some things that John Baptist said, and something that they're waiting for was greater. The Scripture continues.

Acts 19:5:

When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.

For those that want to talk about baptism by water and everything else, there definitely was baptism by water as far as that's what John the Baptist did. He baptized with water. But here there's no mention of that specifically.

It's relatively understood that this was similar to Romans 10:9 and 10:10 as far as they believed with their hearts, confessed with their mouth that Jesus is Lord and they were saved. So continuing on,

Acts 19:6:

And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied. And all the men were about twelve.

So this happened here, in Ephesus.

Acts 19:8,9:

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.

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.

Barcin was talking about the Hall of Tyrannus. There's a little bit we don't definitively know, but definitely at school that he reasoned with. So he first spoke to the Judeans and then the Gentiles.

Acts 19:10:

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.

After this there's the sons of Sceva. After this there's the riot at Ephesus. So there's definitely quite a movement, quite an impact that Paul had as far as preaching the new baptism, the baptism that's available in Jesus Christ, being able to speak in tongues and prophesy and what Jesus Christ had made available for them. So that's within Acts that we just read. That's what has happened here in this place. So with that, hopefully you guys have gained more understanding of the Scripture as we encounter these places. Thank you.