

Acts 19:8-22

EMC Wednesday Night Bible Study - 9-20-17

Context

IV. The Apostle to the Gentiles (12:25-21:17)

- A. The first missionary journey (12:25-14:28)
- B. The Council of Jerusalem (15:1-16:5)
- C. Mission in Macedonia (16:6-17:15)
- D. Paul in Athens (17:16-34)
- E. Corinth and Ephesus (18:1-19:41)**
- F. More about Ephesus (20:1-21:17)

Synagogue and Lecture Hall (vv. 8-10)

- Paul follows his typical pattern:
Synagogue first
- V. 8 - to argue from the OT about the kingdom of God = to argue that Jesus is the Christ
 - Jesus is the _____ of the kingdom, of God's rule on earth
 - He inaugurated the kingdom, and it will be established in its fullness at the second coming
- Vv. 9-10
 - Hardening and speaking evil about the "way"
 - Paul takes the disciples and leaves
 - Begins a dialogue based evangelism ministry to the Gentiles in the school of Tyrannus



Miracles at Ephesus (vv. 11-20)

- Christ's endorsement and encouragement of Paul's ministry
 - Corinth - Vision at night
 - Ephesus - signs and wonders that demonstrated Christ's _____
- V. 11 - 3 observations
 - Not mere "_____ " (Gk. δυνάμεις, "dunamis"), but "extraordinary" works of power
 - Τυχούσας ("tugchusas") - special, singular, remarkable, extraordinary
 - Not _____ - set apart from magical practices in vv. 18-19
 - Right _____ toward them
 - Not to deny or replicate, but to _____:
 - Paul regarded miracles as his apostolic credentials (II Cor. 12:12; Rom. 15:19)
 - Jesus condescended to the nervous faith (Luke 8:43-44)
 - Not to be regarded as _____ for all Christians everywhere
- Vv. 13-17 - Jewish exorcists
 - Disastrous personal consequences
 - Jesus' name is not a mechanical thing - like an incantation

- Despite misuse, it had a wholesome effect
 - Cf. demon-possessed slave girl in Acts 16
- Vv. 18-20 - the power of Jesus over the kingdom of Satan
 - After healing and exorcism came _____ from occult practices
 - V. 19 - magic books burned in public
 - Worth 50,000 pieces of silver
 - 1 piece of silver (drachma) = 1 day's wage
 - 50k = several million dollars in today's earning power (NLT)
 - Signaled the genuineness of their conversion
 - True repentance and faith issues forth in action
 - Following Jesus is costly - his grace cannot be bought, but following him costs us everything

Paul's Future Plans (vv. 21-22)

- V. 21
 - Purposed in his spirit to head back to Jerusalem, but first wanted to cross into Macedonia and Achaia
 - Wanted to pick up the offering which he had been urging the Christians there to collect for their poverty-stricken brothers in Judea (Acts 24:17; Rom. 15:25ff.; I Cor. 16:1-8; II Cor. 8-9)
 - But his eyes were not ultimately set on Jerusalem, but on _____.
 - And beyond that, Spain - the most westerly outpost of Roman civilization in Europe (Rom. 15:24, 28)
 - His vision had no _____
- V. 22
 - Sent Timothy and Erastus ahead of him - make last-minute preparations for the collection
 - He himself stayed behind a little longer in Ephesus, for he "a wide door for effective service has opened to me, and there are many adversaries." (I Cor. 16:8-9)