

Acts 19: At Ephesus

I. The Baptism of the Holy Spirit Brings Forth the Reality of the Church (vv. 1–7)

- A. A group of disciples who had never heard of the Holy Spirit
 - 1. They may be Apollos' spiritual fruit
 - 2. They had only received John's baptism
- B. The church must be established in the Holy Spirit
 - 1. Being baptized in the name of Jesus
 - 2. Receiving the baptism of the Holy Spirit by the laying on of hands — speaking in tongues and prophesying

II. The Word of the Lord Is Preached Throughout Asia — Ephesus Is the Door to Asia (vv. 8–12)

- A. Boldly preaching about the kingdom of God
 - 1. Argued persuasively so that all heard the word of God
 - 2. Some became hardened and maligned the Way
- B. Building a spiritual peak in Asia
 - 1. God worked through Paul to make a straight path
 - 2. Did extraordinary miracles — handkerchiefs and aprons were used to heal the sick and cast out evil spirits

III. Paul Was a Witness the Enemy Feared (vv. 13–18)

- A. The seven sons of Sceva wounded trying to cast out evil spirits — borrowing others' experiences is ineffective
- B. One whom the evil spirit knows — “And I know about Paul” (v. 15)
- C. The Lord's name was magnified — many confessed their deeds

IV. The Word of the Lord Spread Widely and Grew in Power (vv. 19–20)

- A. Scrolls on sorcery burned — many people left demonic practices
- B. Caused people's thoughts to be reclaimed and turned to Jesus — a great victory in thinking

V. Satan's Disturbance — What the Enemy Attacks Is the Way (vv. 21–41)

- A. The enemy is afraid of and despises the Way
- B. Using selfish contentions, he causes persecution — idols fall
- C. Meaningless confusion — not knowing why they had gathered
- D. The crowd's mentality was the enemy's tool
- E. The city clerk quieted the crowds — no reason for that day's commotion