

Ephesus: A Church Born Out of Chaos

Acts 19:1-22

January 24, 2021

1. God takes people from where He finds them to where they **need** to go (1-7)

Read the narrative passages in Acts and carefully compare with the clear teaching passages elsewhere.

Rom. 8:9 "And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ."

1 Cor. 12:13 "For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body . . ."

Titus 3:5 "He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit"

*Anyone who hears the good news about Christ, repents and believes is saved (Mark 1:15; John 5:24). Baptism in water is the **visible** sign of beginning a new life cleansed from sin.*

*A Christian is one who has been "**born** again" (John 3:5-8) by the power of the Holy Spirit and placed into the body of Christ.*

*In the book of Acts, whenever the gospel crossed an **ethnic** barrier, the laying on of hands by the apostles—and sometimes speaking in tongues—made clear to all that the new Christians were full participants in God's forever family (see Eph. 2:11-22).*

2. God gets His word out in various ways, times and places (8-10)
3. God chooses whom He uses; it may be **unusual** (11-12)
4. Jesus' name is not to be used as a **magic** formula to serve our desires for spiritual power (13-16)
5. The word of the Lord spreads when the **Lord** of the word is held in high **honor** (17-20)
6. God's Spirit **directs** His servant's plans (21-22)

On Your Own (better with others)

1. Study the chart below. Do you think that the twelve disciples in Ephesus were saved when Paul first met them? Explain.

A CHART OF PEOPLE COMING TO CHRIST IN ACTS				
Acts	People	Believing the gospel	Water baptism	Gift of the Holy Spirit and Signs of H.S.
2:38	Jews, present in Jerusalem on Pentecost	Peter spoke (v38)	YES	They received the Spirit, no signs mentioned; except for the apostles (2:1-4)
8:12-17	Samaritans	Philip spoke (v12)	YES	Peter and John laid hands on and they received the Spirit (v17) no signs told
8:35-38	Ethiopian official	Philip spoke (v35)	YES	-Spirit implied, not stated-
10:42-48	Gentiles, Cornelius and his family	Peter spoke (v44)	YES	Peter laid hands on and they rec'd the Spirit (v45) and spoke in tongues and praised God (v46)
16:13-15	Gentile lady, Lydia & family	Paul spoke, (v14)	YES	-Spirit implied, not stated-
16:31-34	(Roman jailer and family)	Paul & Silas spoke (v32)	YES	-Spirit implied, not stated-
18:8	Jewish leader, Crispus & fam	Paul spoke (v8)	YES	-Spirit implied, not stated-
19:1-7	Unnamed 12 disciples in Ephesus	Paul spoke (v4)	YES	Paul laid hands on and they rec'd the gift and spoke in tongues and prophesied (v6)

2. The Holy Spirit is responsible for regeneration, or new birth, but the ongoing power of the Spirit is available and renewable. How can you recognize the filling of the Spirit (Eph. 5:15-21)?
3. READ Luke 3:15-18 and Acts 13:24-25. What was the purpose of John the Baptist's ministry? Was he successful?
4. Have you ever 'burned' (totally got rid of) anything that was holding you back from growing in your faith in Christ? What?
5. The temple of Artemis in Ephesus was one of the Seven Ancient Wonders of the World (425' L x 220' W x 60' H) with 127 columns, built entirely of marble, except the roof. Today only a single column of fragments and ruins remain. How is Jesus Christ more amazing, beautiful and enduring?