

Lesson Nine (January 31, 2016)
Third Missionary Journey -- Apollos and Paul in Ephesus

Text: Acts 18:23 to end of Chapter 19

Summary of Text:

Questions:

1. What was the purpose of visiting with brethren according to 18:23?
2. Interestingly, the camera shifts away from Paul to someone who will later show such confidence that he does not change his plans to fit Paul's desires (1 Cor 16:12). Let's look at Apollos.
 - a. What do we learn factually about Apollos in 18:24?
3. In 18:25 we learn Apollos has been taught some but not all of what he needs.
 - a. What does he know?
 - b. What does he not know?
 - c. What does he do with what he knows?
4. Why did Aquila and Priscilla take Apollos aside privately (18:26) instead of confronting him publicly like Paul would do to Peter?
 - a. What does it say about Aquila and Priscilla that they would do this?
 - b. What does it say about Apollos that he would listen to these two tent makers?
5. How effective was Apollos according to 18:27-28?
 - a. What was his message?
 - b. Why is this so important?
6. What was the question (and answer) in 19:1-2?
7. This then caused Paul to ask a question about baptism in 19:3 -- describe the question and answer.
8. What do we learn about what is sometimes called "re-baptism" in 19:4-5?
9. According to 19:8, what was the central message about Paul's teaching?
10. What problem happened in 19:9?
 - a. How did Paul react to this?

11. How long was Paul there and how effective was he in spreading the message (19:10)?
 - a. And how does the Holy Spirit describe this message?
12. In what you may find to be a humorous situation, let's look at the seven sons of Sceva. Describe the power God worked through Paul had in 19:11-12.
13. What are these seven sons of Sceva doing and saying (19:13-14)?
14. The response of the evil spirit is priceless (19:15).
 - a. Aware of Jesus?
 - b. Knows who Paul is?
 - c. So what is his question to these seven brothers?
15. What does this one man do to seven grown men in 19:16?
 - a. Physically what does he do to them?
 - b. What happens to their clothes?
 - c. Are they injured?
 - d. Would this visual image be memorable of seeing these seven brothers in this condition?
16. What perhaps surprising effect did this have on the city in 19:17?
 - a. Explain why.
17. Explain the significance of 19:18-19?
 - a. Perhaps it reminds us of 2 Chronicles 25:6-9?
18. How is the kingdom of God doing according to 19:20?
19. Where does Paul want to go according to 19:21?
 - a. Do you think he expected to get there the way he ended up going there?
20. Describe the problem in 19:23-27.
 - a. What is the root of the problem?
 - b. How does the troublemaker excite the people? What does he appeal to in his speech?
21. What's the impact in 19:28-29?
22. What is Paul prevented from doing in 19:30-31?
 - a. Was this wise or foolish?

- b. Who was right -- Paul or his friends?
23. As is typical in many “upsets”, what is the knowledge of those involved (19:32)?
24. Explain 19:33-34.
25. The speech starting in 19:35 is interesting. Let’s look at it in detail.
- a. What is the psychology of his first statement in 19:35?
 - b. In 19:36, does he allow for any arguing of his first statement?
 - i. Since there can no argument, what is his conclusion about how they should act?
 - c. In 19:37, what does he say about the accused?
 - i. Is he right or wrong?
 - ii. Explain your answer.
 - d. But there could still be some who believe the christians are wrong so what does the speech point out in 19:38?
 - i. What is the psychology behind this statement?
 - ii. What is the clerk trying to do?
 - e. 19:39-40 ends with what conclusion?
 - f. How does this chapter wrap up in 19:41?

Your questions, comments, and thoughts?

What are the practical lessons for you today?