

Acts of the Apostles
Ephesus (Part 1) (Acts 19:1-20)

Introduction: Ephesus (18:21; 1 Cor. 15:32; 16:8, 9; 2 Cor. 1:8)

I. Paul's Encounter with the Disciples of John (vs. 1-7)

-Even if these men weren't Christians, how could they have not known of the HS?

-These men were ignorant of Pentecost.

-Paul doesn't trace the ignorance of these men to any inner moral or spiritual failing. He doesn't teach them how to be baptized in the HS, or to seek a blessing in addition to Christ. He points them to Christ.

-Compare the four occasions when the Spirit descended: Jerusalem (Acts 2); Samaria (Acts 8); Caesarea (Acts 10); Ephesus (Acts 19)

-This passage highlights the essential union of repentance, faith, water baptism, and the gift of the Spirit. (See Acts 2:38)

II. Paul's Relocation to the School of Tyrannus (vs. 8-10)

-“The Way” (9:2; 18:25, 26; 19:9, 23; 22:4; 24:14, 22)

III. Paul's Performance of Unusual Miracles in Ephesus (vs. 11-20)

Practical Lessons

1) The gospel teaches us to seek Christ, not the Spirit.

2) The Bible sometimes depicts the life of Christian discipleship as a way, road, or path (Deut. 30:19; Ps. 1:1; Prov. 4:14; Matt. 7:13, 14; John 14:6).

3) The gospel calls us to repentance from sin and faith in Christ (Acts 2:38; 16:31).