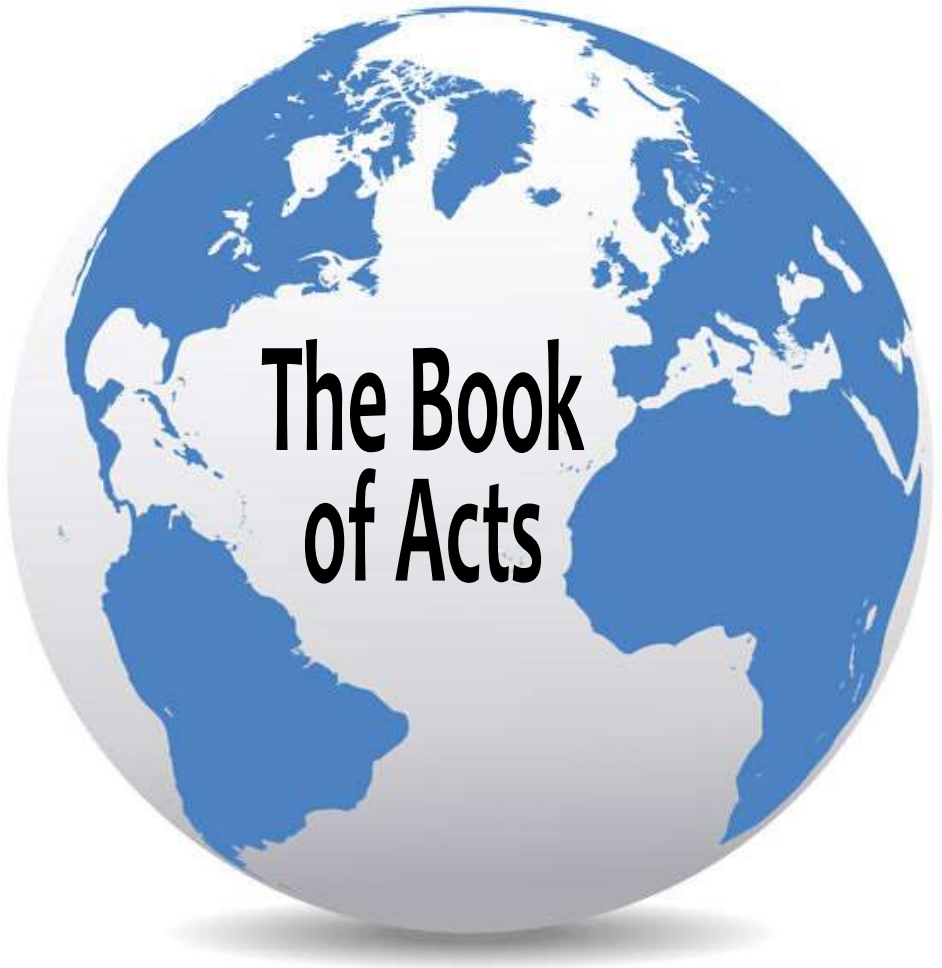


Let's Worship God

19th-24th March 2018
Acts





The Book of ACTS

Monday - Acts 18:12-28 - Humility in Ministers and Members

When trouble broke out, the Jews were vehement but Gallio, the pagan ruler, was indifferent about it, regarding it as a purely Jewish matter and there was a wave of anti-Jewish feeling resulting in Sosthenes, the ruler of the synagogue, being beaten. But whether we are like the religious but self-righteous Pharisees or the indifferent pagan Gallio, without Christ we are lost (Romans 2:12).

Paul took a vow at Cenchrea. This was allowable to Jewish Christians during this transition period from the Old to the New Testament Church (1 Corinthians 9:20-21). After time at Antioch he embarked on what is generally regarded as his third missionary journey.

Then we are introduced to Ephesus (19-21). The great centre of Diana-worship that features so much in the next chapter. Now we are introduced to some people - Apollos, the preacher, and Aquilla and Priscilla.

Apollos was a good preacher. He was mighty in the Scriptures- important in a preacher. He was fervent in the spirit and bold. But he was willing to learn. That's the key. He learned the word of God from Aquilla and Priscilla till he was mighty in the New Testament as well. Then there's Aquilla and Priscilla. They are not prominent, but they are constant in the cause of the Gospel and the apostle always speaks well of them (1 Corinthians 16:19; Romans 16:3-9; 2 Timothy 4:19). They recognised Apollos' gifts and graces. They weren't armchair sermon critics who spoke to others about his deficiencies. They helped him. We need bold ministers and men and women who will help them and be constant in the Gospel

Questions

1. Are we doers of the word or sermon-tasters?
2. Indifference is still the road to Hell. Have we seen the beauty of Christ so as to desire Him?

Prayer Points

1. Pray that the Lord would raise up bold preachers.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

So the word of the Lord continued to increase and prevail mightily. Acts 19:20

Praise: Psalm 87:all - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



The Book of ACTS

Tuesday - Acts 19:1-10 - Paul in Ephesus

When Paul came to Ephesus, he was the means of bringing some disciples into the full privileges of the Church in its New Testament phase. They received New Testament baptism (as instituted by Christ after His resurrection (Matthew 28:19-20) which differed from the Old Testament ordinance administered by John the Baptist. They also received that greater abundance of the Holy Spirit that was to be the norm of all God's people in the New Testament period (1 Corinthians 12:13). For these disciples who straddled the transition from the Old to the New Testament age, however, it was a distinct experience.

Questions

1. Are we dependent upon God for evangelistic results (v.9)?

Prayer Points

1. Pray for the salvation of family and friends.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

So the word of the Lord continued to increase and prevail mightily. Acts 19:20

Praise: Psalm 67A:all - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



The Book of ACTS

Wednesday - Acts 19:11-20 - Double Idolatry - False Religion and Love of Money

The apostle was not only to be the means of helping forward the existing believers, but also of heralding the Gospel to pagan multitudes. The effect was twofold - many conversions and raging opposition. Verse 20 describes the first of these effects. By the power of God, the word of God increased in its influence over the hearts of men. It was not some mindless experience. The word was preached, understood, believed and acted upon. They trusted in the Christ of God preached to them and repented of their sins and brought forth the fruits of repentance - some even publicly burnt their books of magical arts (vs.18-19). This is what happens when the Lord causes His word to prevail and sinners bow the knee to Christ in the Gospel. Has that word prevailed in us and does it continue to prevail in us? Are our hearts tender toward the word of the Lord? We need the Holy Spirit to work in us to become believers and we need the continuing work of the Holy Spirit in us daily to more and more bring our hearts and lives into subjection to the word as we 'grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ' (2 Peter 3:18).

As the word prevailed among many, so it also provoked fury among others. 'The election hath obtained it, and the rest were blinded'. (Romans 11:7).

Questions

1. Why does the world sometimes try to mimic the people of God (vs. 13-17)?

Prayer Points

1. Pray that we would grow in grace and in the knowledge of Christ.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

So the word of the Lord continued to increase and prevail mightily. Acts 19:20

Praise: Psalm 67C:all - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



The Book of ACTS

Thursday - Acts 19:21-41 - Apparent Chaos

The church at Ephesus began with just twelve men (v 7). All the members received the special baptism of the Spirit which was not an individual experience but which was the distinctive mark of the New Testament church and of the exalted Saviour (John 7:39; 1 Corinthians 12:13). They also received water baptism in its distinctive Christian form and these Ephesians were received as members of the now international continuing church of God. (We may also notice that John's baptism was not the same as New Testament baptism). This church had grown and so had the opposition. There was widespread concern about the way (v 22) - compare Acts 9:2 and 19:9 pointing to the exclusiveness of Christianity.

Demetrius perceived that the Gospel was bringing radical change to individual lives and if this continued it would affect the whole way of life at Ephesus. His covetousness (v 25) is because he made silver models of the temple to be used as charms or actual objects of devotion. He, however, put a pious and patriotic veneer upon his motive. Gaius and Aristarchus (v.29) were taken into the amphitheatre and Paul seemed to be willing to risk his life for them. The people (demos) came together but were not lawfully so called. The Jews pushed forward Alexander (v.33) (whether a convert or an unbelieving Jew) to disassociate themselves from the Christians. Even the pagan Asiarches were more sympathetic than the unbelieving Jews. In a crisis don't look for sympathy or expect help from people just because they are religious. The town clerk brought order and dismissed the assembly.

Questions

1. Do we expect our idea of the ideal situation to prevail before we evangelise?
2. Do we understand that God works in the midst of what to us seems like chaos?

Prayer Points

1. Pray for those believers being persecuted in different places.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

So the word of the Lord continued to increase and prevail mightily. Acts 19:20

Praise: Psalm 76:4-8 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



The Book of ACTS

Friday - Acts 20:1-6 - Macedonia and Greece

With indefatigable zeal the apostle laboured on with fellowship in the work (v 4). He came to Troas and didn't meet with Christians on the seventh day but on the first day of the week and so the weekly Sabbath established at creation is to be observed on the first day of the week (1 Corinthians 16:1-2; Revelation 1:10) and is called the Lord's day because on it the Lord's resurrection is remembered as the only event of comparable significance to creation completed. Just as the Lord's Supper commemorates his death, so the Lord's day commemorates his resurrection. The incident recorded in Matthew 12:1-9 indicates that Christ as the Lord of the Sabbath never suspended weekly Sabbath observance and defended his practice from the Old Testament. It also shows especially in verse 5 that the rest is not an end in itself but is in order to worship. The day of worship in Troas is automatically the Sabbath day.

Questions

1. When did Christ appear to the disciples on the first day of the week?

Prayer Points

1. Give thanks for the blessing of the Lord's Day.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

So the word of the Lord continued to increase and prevail mightily. Acts 19:20

Praise: Psalm 66:5-8 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



The Book of ACTS

Saturday - Acts 20:7-16 - The Lord's Day

During Paul's lengthy preaching at Troas a young man called Eutychus fell out of the window, down into the courtyard, and Paul (like Elijah in 1 Kings 17:21 and Elisha in 2 Kings 4:24) went down to the courtyard, fell upon him and embraced him and he came to life. This was undoubtedly one of the signs of an apostle (2 Corinthians 12:12). It also showed that Christ, in whose name Paul acted, is the life-giving Saviour. Just as he could give further life in this world, so he can give life everlasting in the world to come.

Paul hastened on to Jerusalem to be there by Pentecost, either for the evangelistic opportunity or for the unity of the church, Jew and Gentile.

Questions

1. How does the miracle fit in with Christ showing himself as the way, the truth and the life?

Prayer Points

1. Pray for the preaching and hearing of God's Word tomorrow.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

So the word of the Lord continued to increase and prevail mightily. Acts 19:20

Praise: Psalm 66:9-12 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

The goal of Let's Worship God is to encourage and help you in your worship of God each day.

**God tells us that
Ezra read from
the book of the Law
day after day
and that
the people of God
were filled with joy!**

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