

When The Gospel Went To Ephesus

Acts 18:18-21





The City of Ephesus...

- Most important city in Asia. First century population – 250,000 – 300,000.
- Sat at mouth of Cayster River on a gulf of the Aegean Sea.
- A magnificent road went from the harbor – 35 feet wide, lined with columns.
- Great commercial city: Three trades routes converged.
- City of great political importance.
- City of great structures...Theater, (seated 25,000) Temple of Artemis – (Diana), Agora, Library, Stadium,
- Pagan city...major religious attraction: Temple of Diana, one of 7 wonders of ancient world.
- In this city the gospel flourished as Paul labored there for 3 years.





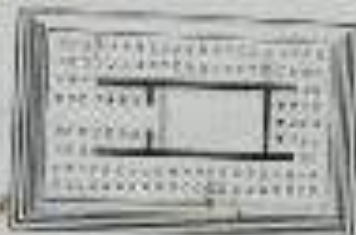








EPHES ARTEMIS M.S. 125-175
ARTEMIS EPHESSA 125-175 A.D.
EPHESSIAN ARTEMIS 125-175 A.D.



Artemis Tapınagi - Artemision Temple





Background...

- **At end of 2nd missionary journey, Paul stopped at Ephesus and promised to return if God was willing.**
- **He left Aquila and Priscilla there.**
- **3rd journey begins in AD 54 and after going through Phrygia and Galatia Paul returns to Ephesus and stays for three years.**
- **A strong church was established there, and the gospel spread into other cities from Ephesus.
(Acts 19:10,20)**

Aquila and Priscilla Served The Lord

- **Paul first encounters them in Corinth. (18:1-4)**
 - They had been run out of Rome.
 - They are of the same craft.
 - He stays with them.
- **When Paul leaves Corinth he takes them with him and leaves them in Ephesus. (18:18)**
- **There they are teaching. (24-27)**
- **Also in Rom. 16:3; I Cor. 16:13; II Tim. 4:19**
- **What characterizes and motivates such service?**



Single Minded Devotion
Sacrificial spirit
Selflessness
Serious about truth

The Whole Counsel of God Was Taught

- **Aquila and Priscilla took Apollos aside and explained to him the way of God more perfectly. (18:24-27)**
- **Paul taught and baptized 12 men who knew only John's baptism. (19:1-7)**
- **Paul refuted long-held religious beliefs. (19:23-27; 20:2—21,27)**



Acts 19:5 → When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.

True Repentance Was Evidenced

- True Repentance Is not...
 - Fear. (Acts 24:24-27) Felix trembled.
 - Conviction of guilt. (Acts 2:37-38)
 - Regret. (Matt. 27:3; 26:75; II Cor. 7:8)
 - Confession. (I Sam. 15:24)
 - Sorrow. (II Cor. 7:12)
 - Mere Reformation. (Ezek. 14:6)



**Conviction → Godly Sorrow → *CHANGE OF MIND* →
Reformation of one's life (I Cor. 6:9-11)**