
IN CHRIST
MADE NEW,
MADE ONE
A SERIES IN EPHESIANS

The Big Picture

IN CHRIST: MADE NEW, MADE ONE

Ephesians 1:1–3

God’s Plan, Our Place

BOOK THEME

In Christ, we are made new.

Through Christ, we are made one.

(Eph. 1:3–10; 2:14–22; 4:1)

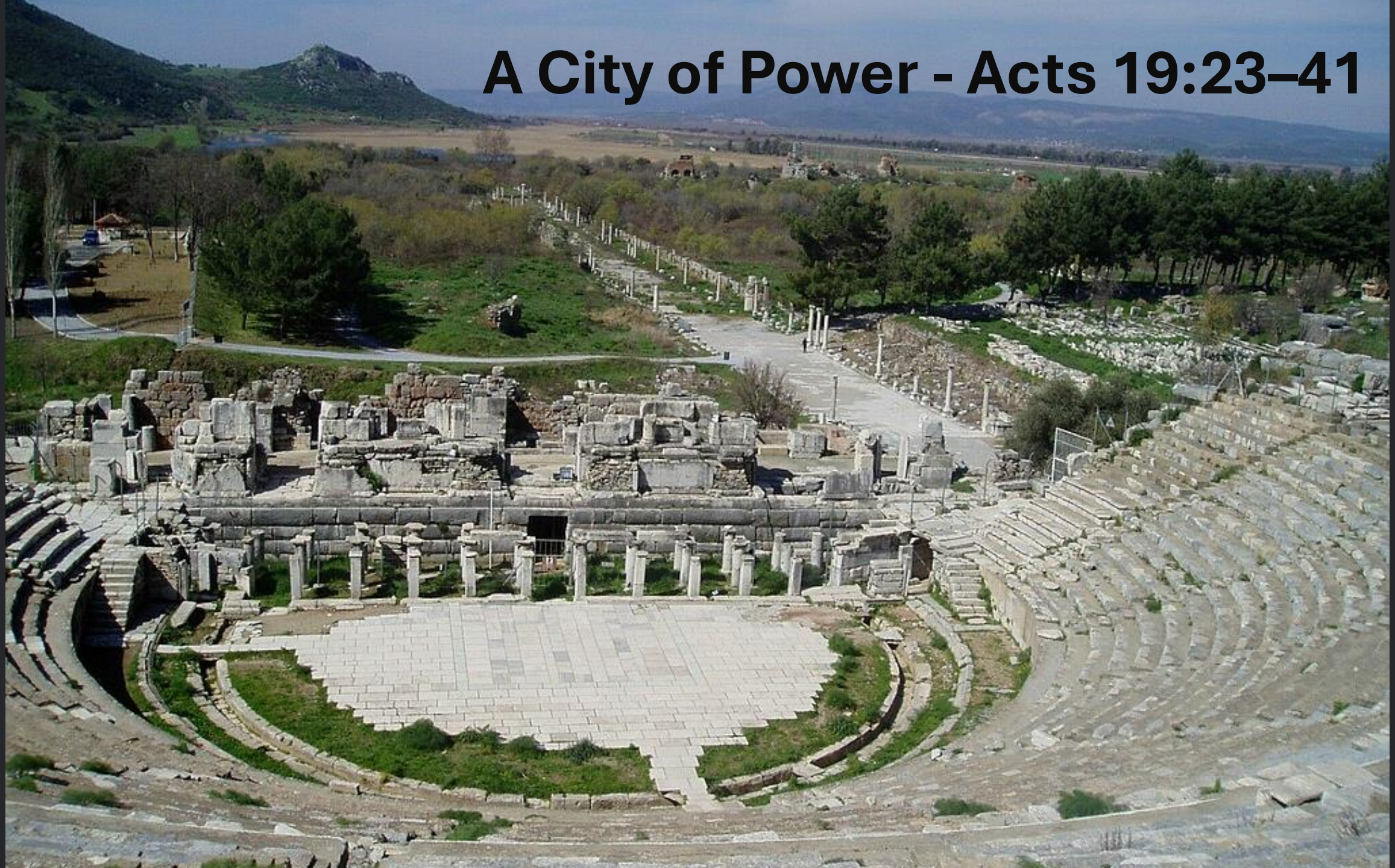

Rome
ITALY
BLACK SEA
MACEDONIA
THRACE
Thessalonica
GALATIA
ASIA
ACHAIA
Corinth
Ephesus
CAPPADOCIA
MEDITERRANEAN SEA

EPHESUS — HISTORICAL CONTEXT

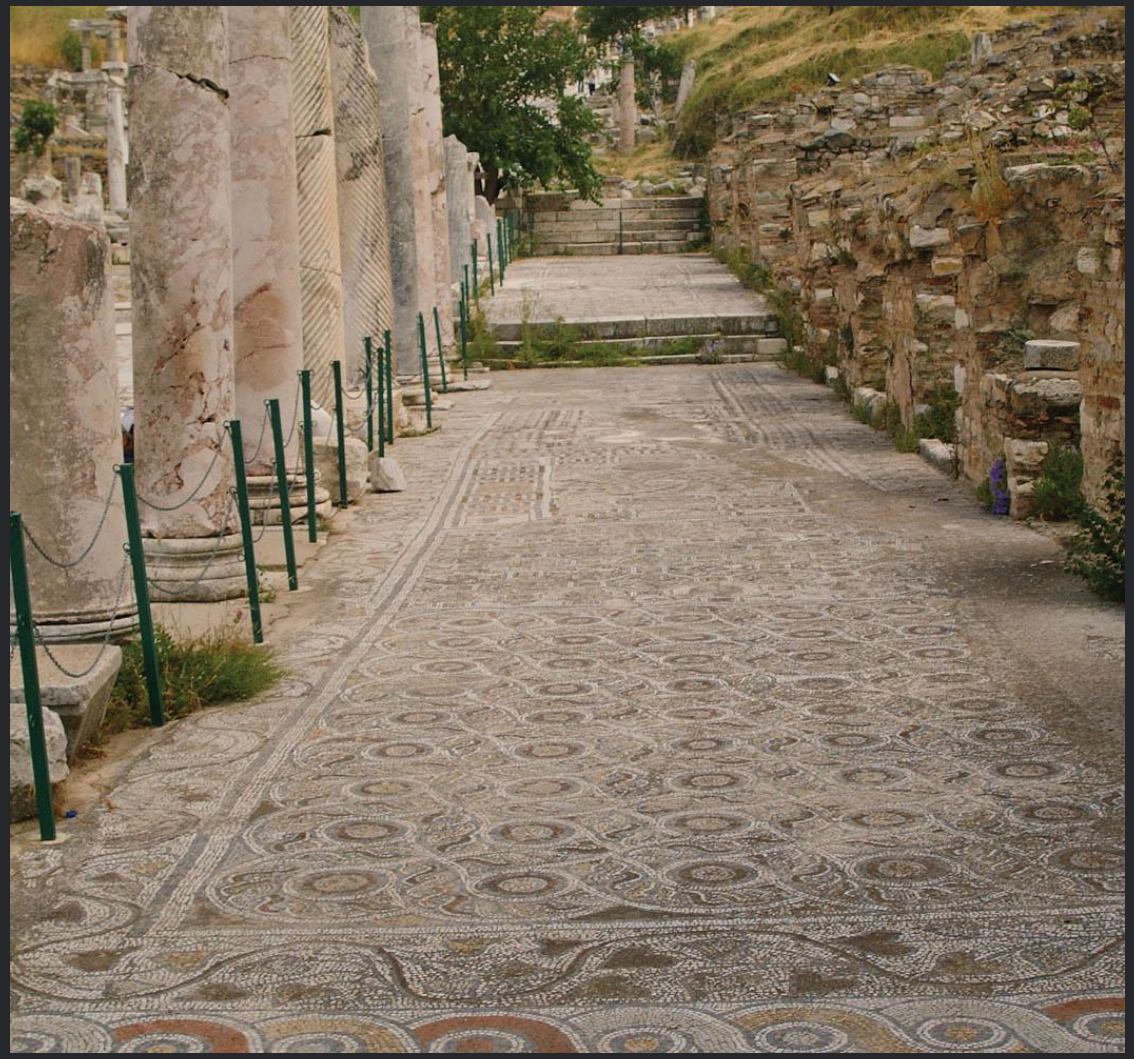
A major port and commercial center.
Artemis worship shaped public life.
The gospel challenged competing loyalties.

(Acts 19:18–41; 20:17–38)

A City of Power - Acts 19:23–41



EPHESUS: DAILY LIFE





PAUL IN EPHESUS — THE BEGINNING

1. **First visit** — synagogue; Priscilla and Aquila remain - (Acts 18:18–21)
2. **Apollos** — taught more accurately by the couple - (Acts 18:24–26)
3. **Paul returns** — 12 disciples receive baptism in Jesus' name - (Acts 19:1–7)

PAUL IN EPHESUS — TEACHING

4. **Synagogue** — three months of bold reasoning - (Acts 19:8–9)
5. **Tyrannus** — two years of daily teaching; Asia hears - (Acts 19:9–10)

Paul writes 1 Corinthians while in Ephesus - (1 Cor. 16:8–9)

PAUL IN EPHESUS — IMPACT

6. **Miracles**; repentance; magic books burned - (Acts 19:11–20)
7. **Artemis** trade threatened; riot in the theater - (Acts 19:23–41)

The word of the Lord grew and prevailed - (Acts 19:20)

PAUL IN EPHESUS — THE LONG VIEW

8. **Farewell** — elders summoned to Miletus - (Acts 20:17–38)
9. **Prison letter** — Paul writes as a prisoner of Christ - (Eph. 3:1; 4:1)
10. **Timothy** — charged to confront false teaching - (1 Tim. 1:3)

PAUL'S FAREWELL — GUARD THE FLOCK

Outside danger — savage wolves will enter - (Acts 20:29)

Inside danger — some will distort truth for followers - (Acts 20:30)

Elders/Leaders — watch yourselves and all the flock - (Acts 20:28, 31)

PAUL’S FAREWELL — GRACE & TEARS

Shepherd the church God purchased - (Acts 20:28)

Entrusted to God and the word of His grace - (Acts 20:32)

Prayer, tears, and a final embrace - (Acts 20:36–38)

JOHN AND THE CHURCH IN EPHESUS

Early church tradition associates John with Ephesus - (Irenaeus, Against Heresies 3.3.4)

John’s writings emphasize truth, love, and abiding - (1 John 2:24; 3:18; 4:7–8)

Revelation addresses the church at Ephesus - (Rev. 2:1–7)

EPHESIANS OVERVIEW

WHO WE ARE (1–3)

HOW WE LIVE (4–6)

Identity before responsibility.

EPHESIANS 1:1 — NASB 2020

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, to the saints who are at Ephesus and who are faithful in Christ Jesus:

EPHESIANS 1:2 — NASB 2020

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

EPHESIANS 1:3 — NASB 2020

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,

BIG IDEA

God makes us new in Christ
and one people for His glory.

(Eph. 1:3; 2:14–22; 3:10)

THE PRISONER SEES A KING

Rome had its emperor.

Ephesus had its goddess.

The church had a risen King.

(Acts 19:23–41; Eph. 1:20–23)

1. A NEW PERSPECTIVE

Paul: commissioned by God.

Ephesus: a city of competing powers.

(Eph. 1:1, 20–23; Acts 19)

GOD’S WILL — θέλημα

thelēma: will, purpose, intention.

God’s purpose and desire calls for our response.

(Eph. 1:1, 5, 9, 11; 5:17)

2. A NEW PEOPLE

Brought near through the cross.
One household. One Spirit.

(Eph. 2:13–22; 3:10)

3. A NEW IDENTITY

Saints: set apart for God.

Faithful: believing in Christ.

Blessed: every spiritual blessing.

(Eph. 1:1–3)

EVERY SPIRITUAL BLESSING

The Father purposes.

The Son redeems.

The Spirit seals.

(Eph. 1:3–14)

EVERY SPIRITUAL BLESSING — 1:3

QUANTITY — Every blessing.

QUALITY — Spiritual, not prosperity.

SPHERE — Heavenly places in Christ.

(Eph. 1:3; 1:20; 2:6)

HEAVENLY PLACES

1:3 — Blessings in Christ.

1:20 — Christ enthroned.

2:6 — Believers raised with Christ.

3:10 — God’s wisdom displayed.

6:12 — Spiritual conflict.

THE TAKEAWAY

1. Know who you are in Christ.
2. Love the family Christ has made.
3. Walk worthy of your calling.

Made new. Made one. Walk worthy.
(Eph. 1:1–3; 2:19; 4:1–3)

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EPHESUS — TRUTH WITHOUT FIRST LOVE?

Commended — toil, endurance, testing false apostles - (Rev. 2:2–3, 6)

Rebuked — “you have left your first love” - (Rev. 2:4)

Called — remember, repent, and do the first deeds - (Rev. 2:5, 7)