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Acts 18:24-19:41

THE ELOQUENT APOLLOS

²⁴Now a Jew named Apollos, a native Alexandrian, an eloquent man who was competent in the use of the Scriptures, arrived in Ephesus. ²⁵He had been instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in spirit, he was speaking and teaching accurately about Jesus, although he knew only John's baptism. ²⁶He began to speak boldly in the synagogue. After Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they took him aside and explained the way of God to him more accurately.

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Acts 18:24-19:41

²⁷When he wanted to cross over to Achaia, the brothers and sisters wrote to the disciples to welcome him. After he arrived, he was a great help to those who by grace had believed. ²⁸For he vigorously refuted the Jews in public, demonstrating through the Scriptures that Jesus is the Messiah.

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Paul's Third Missionary Journey

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Segment One: Antioch to Ephesus (19)

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Segment One: Antioch to Ephesus (19)

1. John's Disciples (1-7)

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Acts 18:24-19:41

TWELVE DISCIPLES OF JOHN THE BAPTIST

¹While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul traveled through the interior regions and came to Ephesus. He found some disciples ²and asked them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?”

“No,” they told him, “we haven’t even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.”

³“Into what then were you baptized?” he asked them.

“Into John’s baptism,” they replied.

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Acts 18:24-19:41

TWELVE DISCIPLES OF JOHN THE BAPTIST

⁴Paul said, “John baptized with a baptism of repentance, telling the people that they should believe in the one who would come after him, that is, in Jesus.”

⁵When they heard this, they were baptized into the name of the Lord Jesus. ⁶And when Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they began to speak in tongues and to prophesy. ⁷Now there were about twelve men in all.

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IN THE LECTURE HALL OF TYRANNUS



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Segment One: Antioch to Ephesus (19)

1. John's Disciples (1-7)

2. Teaching in Tyrannus Hall (8-10)

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Acts 18:24-19:41

IN THE LECTURE HALL OF TYRANNUS

⁸Paul entered the synagogue and spoke boldly over a period of three months, arguing and persuading them about the kingdom of God. ⁹But when some became hardened and would not believe, slandering the Way in front of the crowd, he withdrew from them, taking the disciples, and conducted discussions every day in the lecture hall of Tyrannus. ¹⁰This went on for two years, so that all the residents of Asia, both Jews and Greeks, heard the word of the Lord.

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Segment One: Antioch to Ephesus (19)

- 1. John's Disciples (1-7)**
- 2. Teaching in Tyrannus Hall (8-10)**
- 3. Seven Sons of Sceva & Spiritual Warfare (11-20)**
- 4. Rioting in the Streets (21-41)**

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Acts 18:24-19:41

DEMONISM DEFEATED AT EPHESUS

¹¹God was performing extraordinary miracles by Paul's hands, ¹²so that even facecloths or aprons that had touched his skin were brought to the sick, and the diseases left them, and the evil spirits came out of them.

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Acts 18:24-19:41

¹³Now some of the itinerant Jewish exorcists also attempted to pronounce the name of the Lord Jesus over those who had evil spirits, saying, "I command you by the Jesus that Paul preaches!" ¹⁴Seven sons of Sceva, a Jewish high priest, were doing this. ¹⁵The evil spirit answered them, "I know Jesus, and I recognize Paul—but who are you?"

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Acts 18:24-19:41

¹⁶Then the man who had the evil spirit jumped on them, overpowered them all, and prevailed against them, so that they ran out of that house naked and wounded.

¹⁷When this became known to everyone who lived in Ephesus, both Jews and Greeks, they became afraid, and the name of the Lord Jesus was held in high esteem.

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Acts 18:24-19:41

¹⁸And many who had become believers came confessing and disclosing their practices, ¹⁹while many of those who had practiced magic collected their books and burned them in front of everyone. So they calculated their value and found it to be fifty thousand pieces of silver. ²⁰In this way the word of the Lord spread and prevailed.

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Acts 18:24–19:41

THE RIOT IN EPHESUS

²¹After these events, Paul resolved by the Spirit to pass through Macedonia and Achaia and go to Jerusalem. “After I’ve been there,” he said, “It is necessary for me to see Rome as well.” ²²After sending to Macedonia two of those who assisted him, Timothy and Erastus, he himself stayed in Asia for a while.

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Acts 18:24-19:41

²³About that time there was a major disturbance about the Way. ²⁴For a person named Demetrius, a silversmith who made silver shrines of Artemis, provided a great deal of business for the craftsmen. ²⁵When he had assembled them, as well as the workers engaged in this type of business, he said, "Men, you know that our prosperity is derived from this business."

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Acts 18:24-19:41

²⁶You see and hear that not only in Ephesus, but in almost all of Asia, this man Paul has persuaded and misled a considerable number of people by saying that gods made by hand are not gods. ²⁷Not only do we run a risk that our business may be discredited, but also that the temple of the great goddess Artemis may be despised and her magnificence come to the verge of ruin—the very one all of Asia and the world worship.”

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Acts 18:24-19:41

²⁸When they had heard this, they were filled with rage and began to cry out, "Great is Artemis of the Ephesians!" ²⁹So the city was filled with confusion, and they rushed all together into the amphitheater, dragging along Gaius and Aristarchus, Macedonians who were Paul's traveling companions. ³⁰Although Paul wanted to go in before the people, the disciples did not let him. ³¹Even some of the provincial officials of Asia, who were his friends, sent word to him, pleading with him not to venture into the amphitheater.

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Acts 18:24-19:41

³²Some were shouting one thing and some another, because the assembly was in confusion, and most of them did not know why they had come together. ³³Some Jews in the crowd gave instructions to Alexander after they pushed him to the front. Motioning with his hand, Alexander wanted to make his defense to the people. ³⁴But when they recognized that he was a Jew, they all shouted in unison for about two hours, "Great is Artemis of the Ephesians!"

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Acts 18:24-19:41

³⁵When the city clerk had calmed the crowd down, he said, "People of Ephesus! What person is there who doesn't know that the city of the Ephesians is the temple guardian of the great Artemis, and of the image that fell from heaven?" ³⁶Therefore, since these things are undeniable, you must keep calm and not do anything rash. ³⁷For you have brought these men here who are not temple robbers or blasphemers of our goddess.

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Acts 18:24-19:41

³⁸So if Demetrius and the craftsmen who are with him have a case against anyone, the courts are in session, and there are proconsuls. Let them bring charges against one another. ³⁹But if you seek anything further, it must be decided in a legal assembly. ⁴⁰In fact, we run a risk of being charged with rioting for what happened today, since there is no justification that we can give as a reason for this disturbance.” ⁴¹After saying this, he dismissed the assembly.

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