



Paul in Ephesus: **Man-Made gods are no gods at all!**

(Acts 18:18 – 19:41)

Study Notes Handout: Oct 1st

You see and hear how this fellow Paul has convinced and led astray large numbers of people here in Ephesus and in practically the whole province of Asia. He says that man-made gods are no gods at all. There is danger not only that our trade will lose its good name, but also that the temple of the great goddess Artemis will be discredited, and the goddess herself, who is worshipped throughout the province of Asia and the world, will be robbed of her divine majesty. When they heard this, they were furious and began shouting, 'Great is Artemis of the Ephesians!' (Acts 19:26 - 28)

Sermon Outline:

How did the believers in Ephesus deal with man-made gods?

1. Repentance – turning from sin (19:3 – 4)
2. Faith – turning to Jesus Christ (19:4 – 6)
3. Confession – openly admitting sin and evil (19:17 – 18)
4. Obedience – acting upon repentance, faith and confession (19:19 – 20)

Questions for Reflection and Discussion:

What man-made gods does our society worship?

What man-made gods might another culture point out in our culture?

What man-made gods are we most seduced by as Christians in North America?

What themes from the story of Demetrius are relevant for us today?



Study and Discussion Questions

Acts 18:18 – 19:41

Explore It

1. *How did Apollos put his gifts and knowledge to good use? ([18:24-26](#))*
2. *How did Apollos serve God in Achaia? ([18:27-28](#))*
3. *What extraordinary events happened during this time? ([19:11-16](#))*
4. *Why did the silversmith's talk create such an uproar? ([19:27-29](#))*

Get It

5. *What methods did Apollos use to encourage and teach other Christians?*
6. *When did you realize that the Holy Spirit was at work in your life?*
7. *What battles might Paul fight if he were a missionary to your community?*
8. *How do Christians sometimes compromise the kingdom of God for money?*

Apply It

9. *Whom can you help grow in the faith this week? How?*
10. *What is one practical way you can oppose Satan's efforts among the people you know?*
11. *What is one way you can trust God with your money this week?*
12. *How can you honor the Lord without all the religious and cultural trappings that Christians have placed on Him?*