

Series "God At Work" Book of Acts
"Missing Part"
Acts 18:18-19:7 | Study-34

1. The Power of the Word and The Church: The Birth of the Church of Ephesus, and Paul's Return to Antioch.

2. The Power of the Word to Bring Correction: Apollos – With his missing ingredient.

3. The Power of the Word to Bring Conversion: Disciples of John: unconverted followers.

Thought Of Our Passage: "God's Word Through Paul Strengthened, And Established Churches Bringing Correction With Conversion To The Lost."

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| 1. Verses 18-23 | The Word and Church |
| 2. Verses 24-28 | The Word and Correction |
| 3. Verses 1-7 | The Word and Conversion |

1. Verses 18-23 The Word And Church:

Acts 18:18 Paul, having remained many days longer, - Context: Paul has been ministering in Corinth for about 18 months and would return on his third missionary journey.

and with him were Priscilla and Aquila. Acts 18:1-3 Opened their hearts to God, opened their house to Paul. Fellow tentmakers.

In Cenchrea (Seaport of Corinth)

he had his hair cut, for he was keeping a vow. Numbers 6:1-21

Acts 18:19 They came to Ephesus – East three to four Days by ship across the Aegean Sea.

Ephesus – Literally "*Desirable*," But this was one wicked city. NT. Population was 500,000 people.

1. It was the chief city of the Roman province of Asia. (Real capital of the Roman Province)
2. City of culture, art, and philosophers.
3. Had the Olympic Games.
4. Great Trade Center: Seaport - River – Cayster, which flowed West into the Aegean Sea. Main roads converged there to the known world.
5. A free city – with its own Senate and Assembly.

Temple of Diana – one of the 7 Wonders of the World - (Roman) Temple of Diana (Greek) Artemis.

Temple Description: The temple had 127 columns, 60 feet high, and stood 425 feet long and 220 feet wide. It took 220 years to build.

Statue of Artemis – ("Grotesque" image) was a woman with multiple breasts, symbolizing her ability to nourish the earth. The goddess of nature and fertility.

and he left them there. Priscilla and Aquila - in Ephesus because he was planning, by God's will, to return.

Now he himself entered the synagogue and reasoned with the Jews. This was Paul's pattern of ministry. **reasoned** "*to say thoroughly, discuss, preach (unto), reason (with), speak.*"

Acts 18:20 When they asked him to stay for a longer time, he did not consent,

Acts 18:21 (KJV) I must by all means keep this feast that cometh in Jerusalem: The Passover to minister to the visiting Jews. **1 Corinthians 9:22-23**

"I will return to you again if God wills," That is a good model to follow. God does allow it in **Acts 19:1;** Paul returns for an extended stay.

Acts 18:22 went down to Antioch. This completes the **Second Missionary Journey.**

Caesarea, he went up and greeted the church, - Paul went to Jerusalem. Travels South/East.

and went down to Antioch. Paul travels North, then West.

Acts 18:23 And having spent some time there, - Possibly about a year.

he left and passed successively through the Galatian region and Phrygia, Paul 3rd Missionary Journey, Acts 18:23-Acts 21:14

strengthening all the disciples. Paul established churches; then he would confirm.

2. Verses 24-28 The Word And Correction:

Acts 18:24 Apollos – icon of the early church. **1 Corinthians 3:4 "I am of Apollos,"**

Alexandrian by birth - this city in North Africa was a rival to Athens for its learning.

5 Things recorded about Apollos:

1. **an eloquent man;** literally, *"to be learned in knowledge and the ability to express it."*
2. **he was mighty in the Scriptures.** This would be one versed in OT
3. **Acts 18:25 This man had been instructed in the way of the Lord;** Jehovah God, the God of the OT. Trying to follow the OT Law.
4. **and being fervent in spirit,** *"With energy and conviction, boiling over, on fire, from the heart."*
5. **speaking and teaching accurately the things concerning Jesus;** **he** knew Jesus was to come, but he did not know that He had come and sin had been dealt with.

being acquainted only with the baptism of John; He had been a disciple of John.

Acts 18:26 and he began to speak out boldly in the synagogue. Apollos was bold.

they took him aside To be taught in private, and given the full picture.

Religion is not Enough! - and explained to him the way of God more accurately.

This Way of God More Accurately: (Essentials of The Faith)

Apollos Was Teachable: A man sitting at the Feet of Tentmakers and humbly receiving instruction:

Acts 18:27 wrote to the disciples to welcome him; the church supporting **Acts 19:1**

and when he had arrived, he greatly helped those who had believed through grace, - He discipled others. He was one who was building up the church.

Acts 18:28 for he powerfully refuted the Jews in public, - Here is a man that went public. Stephen in **Acts 7** when he stood before the council.

demonstrating by the Scriptures that Jesus was the Christ. Holy Spirit

3. Verses 1-7 The Word And Conversion:

Acts 19:1 It happened that while Apollos was at Corinth, Apollos became an icon! **1 Corinthians 3:4-7**

came to Ephesus - Paul has been here before, now returns, but this time he will spend some time. **Acts 18:19** Paul spends three years; **Acts 20:31**

found some disciples, used **264 times** in the N.T. it denotes a "*learner*"; it is a follower of the teacher and his teaching.

Acts 19:2 He said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when (Not Since) you believed?" To believe in Jesus is to receive the Holy Spirit. (Spirit With Faith)

Holy Spirit is the indispensable proof that a person is truly born again: Romans 8:9,16; 1 John 5:9-13, you receive the Spirit when you believe on Jesus Christ **Ephesians 1:13.**

God's pattern for today: "Hear the Word, Believe, Receive the Spirit, Receive water baptism."

Acts 19:3 And he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" (Identification through Baptism) **And they said, "Into John's baptism." You can only be saved through the right message.**

Acts 19:4 All they knew was the teaching of the old economy.

Acts 19:5 they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. Only place in Scripture where a person is re-baptized.

They Were Teachable: They could have wanted to stay with John the Baptist.

Acts 19:6 Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Spirit came on them,

and they began speaking with tongues and prophesying.

Acts 19:7 There were in all about twelve men. A group of 12 men.

Application:

1. The Word And The Church: Committed Christians – Need To Hold Fast To The Faith And Allow The Spirit Of God To Work Through The Word In And Through Them. Encouragement: God uses different Christians: Paul, Priscilla and Aquila, Apollos.

2. The Word And Correction: The Power Of The Word To Bring Correction. The Great Communicator Apollos – Was Missing The Key Ingredient. He Humbled Himself, Becoming Teachable, So That The Lord Then Could Use Him In Powerful Ways.

3. The Word And Conversion: Disciples Of John Were Unconverted Disciples. Humbled Themselves, Received The New Birth With The Evidence Of The Holy Spirit.