

A Picture of Revival—Part 1

III: The _____: v11-12

According to Acts 20:31, Paul had labored in Ephesus for 3 years. During that time we are told in v11 that **God wrought special miracles by the hands of Paul:**

A. they were _____ miracles

During this transitional time in church history, God Himself gave to Paul the ability to do some things that others could not do. They were not manufactured; they were not mere illusions or magic tricks; what happened wasn't something that developed over time; and they weren't given to Paul or order for Paul to showboat his spiritual powers from God. They were supernaturally given for the sole purpose of validating the message that Paul had been preaching.

B. they were _____ miracles

● **special** = not obtainable powers

While all supernatural powers and miracles are by their very nature "special", our text is unique in that nowhere else in Scripture do find such a simple miracle involving handkerchiefs and aprons being used.

While God can certainly use miracles in the process of bringing about revival if He so chooses, the miracles that we are to look for and count on during revival are the greatest miracles known to man ... salvation and a changed life!

God can use you in the process of revival! Are you prepared?



September 5, 2021

Picture of Revival—Part 1

Acts 19:1-20

It has been said ... *"Conversion to Christ changes the individual. Mass conversions to Christ change a culture."*

In our text this morning, we see this statement lived out as Paul, and 12 others, greatly impacted the city of Ephesus.

True revival will not only impact the individual but also the surroundings of those individuals, sometimes to the degree that entire cultures are changed.

This morning, we will begin a two-part mini-series as we discover the Picture of Revival as found in Acts 19.

A Picture of Revival—Part 1

I: The _____: v1

Paul's standard procedure whenever he came to a city was to preach to the Jews first and then to the Gentiles. Paul, therefore, referenced himself and his calling as the Apostle to the Gentiles (Romans 11:13).

A. Paul was an _____ man

On a previous, yet very short trip to Ephesus, Paul promised his return to the established Believers living in Ephesus. In spite of the difficulty in travel and time, Paul kept his promise.

B. Paul was an _____ man

Paul encounters a group of men who claim to be "disciples". By way of Paul's insight, he discerns that, while they have been baptized according to John, they are not saved.

Paul then preaches to them the complete story of Jesus; they receive Him and then are baptized in Christ.

The work that the Holy Spirit sought to do in Ephesus began with one man (Paul) who invested himself in the salvation and lives of others so that they might affect the culture in which they lived with the true Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Are you willing to invest yourself so that the culture of Evergreen and Kalispell might be impacted for Christ?

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II: The _____: v6-10

Twelve Jewish men get saved and Paul, as often as Paul did, laid hands on them and immediately God gives them two temporary sign gifts ... tongues and prophecy ... in order that they can deliver His message to the lost in this region.

A. it is a _____ message: v6

Not only did the temporary sign gifts come from the Holy Spirit, but the message that these gifts would help deliver ... the Gospel of Jesus Christ ... also came from the Holy Spirit.

B. it is a _____ message: v8

The idea of **disputing** holds the sense of *open debate* and so the picture is one of Paul, going into the synagogue and openly debating for Christ and all of those things concerning the kingdom of God.

C. it is a _____ message: v9

As this process lasted for a few months some of the Jewish hearts were hardened forcing Paul had to separate himself out of that environment.

D. it was a _____ message: v10

Paul and the others end up preaching in a school of Tyrannus for two years **so that all they which dwelt in Asia heard the word of the Lord Jesus, both Jews and Greeks.**

We have the same God, the same Jesus, and the same message as Paul and the other. And God has also empowered us to take that message to the lost. Will we quit or will we be faithful to continue?