

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. What is revival (as at Ephesus)?
2. What is the key to a revival?
3. What role does the Holy Spirit perform in a revival? [SoF:8]
4. Where must revival begin?
5. What was the result of revival at Ephesus? (vs. 17-20)
6. What are some manifestations that revival has taken place within individual believers? Within a local church?
7. What elements were involved that facilitated the rapid growth of the gospel?

SUMMARY:

In this lesson there can be seen three steps in the progress of revival. First a group of twelve men received the Holy Spirit, and secondly, the Word of God was preached. [SoF:8] This was in accord with what Paul wrote in 2 Corinthians 4:5: *"We preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord."* It is the Word of God that has the power to change lives, [SoF:9] not the wisdom of men. Finally, we can see the result that the Word had in changing the lives of many in contrast to the powerless exorcists who, although they used the Name of Jesus, neither knew Him nor the Holy Spirit.

NOTES:

[SoF:8] We believe that a saving faith results in regeneration by the Holy Spirit and the Word of God, without which there is no salvation.

[SoF:9] We believe in the baptism of the Holy Spirit, by Whose indwelling the believer is empowered to live a Godly life in spiritual unity with Christ.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #13

December 27, 2026

Fourth Quarter

REVIVAL AT EPHEBUS

LESSON TEXT: *Acts 19:1-20*

LESSON SETTING: Paul in Ephesus where the Holy Ghost came upon the disciples of John.

TIME: Approximately 55 A.D.

- I. THE SPIRIT RECEIVED.** [SoF: 8,9] Acts 19:1-7
 - A. Belief in the Lord Jesus Necessary (vs. 4) John 3:16; Acts 16:31
 - B. Believers Baptized in the Name of the Lord Jesus (vs. 5)
1 Peter 3:21; Acts 16:33
 - C. Laying on the Hands and the Spirit Received (vs. 6) Acts 8:15-17
- II. REVIVAL EXPERIENCED.** Acts 19:8-12
 - A. The Word is Heard by All in Asia (vs. 10)
 - B. Special Miracles by the Hand of Paul (vs. 11, 12)
1 Corinthians 2:4-5
- III. REPENTANCE DEMONSTRATED.** Acts 19:13-20
 - A. Many Believe in the Lord Jesus (vs. 18)
 - B. Confession of Sin (vs. 18) 1 John 1:9-10; Luke 15:18
 - C. Forsaking Sin (vs. 19) Job 11:14; Proverbs 28:13

GOLDEN TEXT: *SO MIGHTILY GREW THE WORD OF GOD AND PREVAILED*

Acts 19:20

NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON: Acts 20:17-38

SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES: Genesis 49:1-33

Deuteronomy 33:1-29

QUARTERLY THEME: Life and Writings of Paul

TOPIC: FACING THE FUTURE WITH GOD

INTRODUCTION:

God has withheld the future from us; we cannot know what lies ahead. But we can recall the past and know the strength God gave us to overcome. We would not wish to live again the sorrows, agonies, trials and temptations that we had in the past. Although we would not again wish to experience them, we can with joy bring to remembrance how God helped us at these times. This assures us that the future can hold nothing, but that He again can uphold us.

God has promised, *"I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee."* (Hebrew 13:5b)

Peter reminds us in 1 Peter 5:7 to cast *"all your care upon Him, for He careth for you."*

These promises, and others, God will keep, if we do our part. Jesus says in John 15:4, *"Abide in me and I in you."* We must abide in Him. We must believe His Word, trust His Word, obey His commandments, read His Word, and pray without ceasing. We must bear the fruit of the Spirit, be dependent upon the Spirit, be always motivated by Him. If this is our way of living, we have nothing to fear about what the future may hold. All is in God's hands and only those things that are for our good will He permit to take place. (Romans 8:28)

CENTRAL TRUTH: The Christian walks confidently in the knowledge that God plans his future.

GOLDEN TEXT: *I COMMEND YOU TO GOD, AND TO THE WORD OF HIS GRACE, WHICH IS ABLE TO BUILD YOU UP AND TO GIVE YOU AN INHERITANCE AMONG ALL THEM WHICH ARE SANCTIFIED.*

Acts 20:32

Paul felt that he was leaving his fellow servants for the last time, and that they would *"see his face no more"* (vs. 25). It was comforting for him to know that he had *"kept back nothing that was profitable to them"* (vs. 20) and *"had not shunned to declare to them all the counsel of God"* (vs. 27). Yet, it was still a concern to him to exhort, to warn, to encourage them in God's service. The Holy Spirit revealed to him that some would depart from the faith and seek to deceive others to follow their pernicious ways. So, he could only repeat the warning that Jesus Himself often spoke to His disciples, *"take heed to yourself"*. After his own example of service to Christ and his words of exhortation and warning he could only add, *"and now brethren, I commend you to God."*

It is still so today. Elders and ministers, teachers and parents can only by word and example encourage us to walk in God's ways, but He must grant the grace that we can remain true and faithful. He will also grant the power as we look to Him.

Put on God's mighty armour to protect you
With power from on high, for you all know
How soon your human heart can misdirect you;
How subtle oft the onslaught of the foe.
With flesh and blood we do not wrestle solely,
We have to battle with a host unholy!

— Z.H. 115:1

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF Dec. 28 – January 3

Mon. God of the Future. Deuteronomy 33:1-11
Tue. Hope for the Future. Deuteronomy 33:12-22
Wed. Promises for the Future. Deuteronomy 33:23-29
Thu. Journey to the Future. Acts 20:1-12
Fri. *Attitude for the Future. Acts 20:13-21
Sat. *Confidence for the Future. Acts 20:22-27
Sun. *Commission for the Future. Acts 20:28-38

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