**Welcome to *Faith Bible Church!***

March 12, 2023

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**Order of Service:­­­­­**

Opening Hymn: *Virginia Grosskurth*

Invocation

Scripture Reading: Matthew 8:28-34 *McKenna South*

Announcements

Pastoral Prayer

Hymn: Virginia Grosskurth

Message: *Paul Goes Back To School* (Acts 19:23-34)

Hymn #35: Blest Be The Tie That Binds

**Announcements**

**Pastor Jim Tollar** will be our guest speaker on March 26. He will also conduct another question and answer session in Adult Sunday School that morning.

**Pastor Kurth** is having email troubles. If you email him and don’t receive a reply, please text, call, or tell him on Sunday.

**Northern Grace Youth Camp** money-saving early registration is going on now. See their web site for details at [www.northerngraceyouthcamp.org](http://www.northerngraceyouthcamp.org).

**Our offering box** is located just left of the kitchen door.

**Pick up** today’s cross reference sheet & silence your phone.

**Acts 19:8-22** *The Apostle Paul Goes Back to School*

These Jews who rejected Paul (v.8) were the ones who beg-ged to hear more (18:19,20), but evidently they still didn’t want to hear the lowly carpenter was their Christ. So they hardened their hearts (cf.IIChron.36:11-13) against the truth, and spoke evil of “that way,” i.e., *of the Lord* (Jo.14:6cf.Acts 9:1,2). Some must have believed though, for Paul had “disciples” he took with him when he left (19:9). We don’t know if the school Paul joined was *next* to the synagogue, as in Corinth, but those unsaved Jews were surely provoked to envy when they saw the success of Paul’s school (v.10).

Once Paul popularized Jesus in Asia, men tried to *capitalize* on Him by associating with Him, so God gave Paul the pow-er to do things they couldn’t (19:11,12). His old tentmaker aprons could cast devils out *from a distance,* something that made him stand out from the Jews in verse 13 in the way Moses stood out when God worked a special miracle by *him* (Ex.8:17-19).Only *God* could make life from dust (Gen.2:7).

These “vagabond” Jews were types of the nation Israel, who should have been in their homeland in the kingdom by this time in Acts (cf.Ezek.36:24,25). Cain was a type of them. He killed his brother, so God made *him* a vagabond (Gen.4: 9,12), and the Jews killed *their* brother Jesus, and God made *them* vagabonds. Judas was another type of them (Ps.109:8, 10cf.Acts 1:15-26). He had no physical kids to become vagabonds, so that psalm cursed his *spiritual* children, *the children of Israel.* The psalm’s reference to making them “desolate” should remind you of Matthew 23:37-39.

If that sounds harsh, remember, these Jews were using the name of the Christ they crucified and the apostle they perse-cuted to make money. But that’s the purpose of Acts: to show how low the nation of Israel had fallen, spiritually.

As the sons of a priest (Acts 19:14), these Jews should have

been *priests themselves* in the kingdom by now, not exorcists, with Gentiles bringing them “riches” (Isa.61:6). They were exorcists before Paul (Acts 19:13), but once he made Jesus popular, they *combined* exorcism with His name, *and regretted it* (v.15,16). Possessed men had superhuman strength (Mark 5:2-4). The wounds of these men disqual-ified them from beingpriests (Lev.21:17-21). That’s where Israel stands today, defeated by the devil and disqualified from being the priests God wants them to be in the kingdom.

Job was a type of how Jews *will be* priests in the kingdom. He was his family’s priest and, like Sceva, had 7 sons (Job1: 2,5) who died (v.19); but after much tribulation he got 7 sons back in his “latter end” (42:12,13). Jews will get *their* priests back after *they* go through tribulation in *their* latter days. These Jews typified how Israel was just reaping what she sowed when one of their priests left a Gentile naked *of God’s righteousness* and *spiritually* wounded (Lu.10:30-34). As in Acts 13, Jews are judged while Gentiles are saved (19:18).

“Curious” arts (19:19,20) are *black* arts, i.e., dabbling with spirits—like these exorcists! Curio cabinets originally feat-ured things people are *curious* about, like black arts objects. They must have been at it a long time to have that many books on it. The “deeds” they showed (v.18) were talismans they sold *to ward off evil spirits.* That means they “confessed” *to doing what the exorcists were doing,* combin-ing Jesus with their black arts. Crucifixes are talismans that priests use to ward off evil spirits during exorcisms. When they heard what happened to the exorcists, they *feared* (v.17) that the devils *they* were trafficking with would turn on *them.*

If you think evil spirits can prevail(v.16) against *you*, v.20 says *the Word* prevailed *against them.* Of course, today they oppose us by duplicating the *doctrines* we teach, the way Pharaoh’s magicians withstood Moses’ *miracles* (IITim.3:8 cf.ITim.4:1-3). But their doctrines can’t produce *eternal* life,something that will be obvious in heaven, if not sooner.

Faith Bible Church

www.faithbiblechurch.weebly.com

March 12, 2023

Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

*Thornton Harrison, Jim Tollar, Ray Seiler, Oscar Ochoa Jr.*

Morning Service: 10:45 a.m.

*Pastor Ricky Kurth*

Junior Church: 10:45 a.m.

*Myrtle Harrison*

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