

“The Name Matters”

ACTS 19:1-7





Adriatic Sea

Thessaloniki

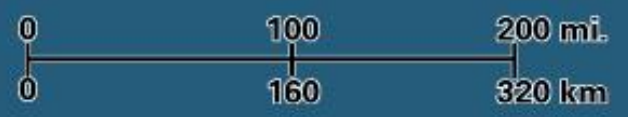
Aegean Sea

Corinth

Athens

Ephesus

Mediterranean Sea







I. The Need Is Established – v.1-4a

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1. By asking questions

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2. The response leads to a conclusion

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II. The Remedy Is Set Forth – v.4b-6

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I. The Need Is Established – v.1-4a

1. By asking questions

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II. The Remedy Is Set Forth – v.4b-6

1. It is always the same

2. It comes through belief

I. The Need Is Established – v.1-4a

1. By asking questions

2. The response leads to a conclusion

II. The Remedy Is Set Forth – v.4b-6

1. It is always the same

2. It comes through belief

3. Belief leads to indwelling

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II. The Remedy Is Set Forth – v.4b-6

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4. Should lead to baptism

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II. The Remedy Is Set Forth – v.4b-6

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4. Should lead to baptism

5. Evidence of conversion is noticed

The Name Matters

Acts 19:1-7, Sunday AM, October 2, 2022

Prelude – Scripture: Acts 19:1–7 It happened that while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul passed through the upper country and came to Ephesus, and found some disciples. ² He said to them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?” And they said to him, “No, we have not even heard whether there is a Holy Spirit.” ³ And he said, “Into what then were you baptized?” And they said, “Into John’s baptism.” ⁴ Paul said, “John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in Him who was coming after him, that is, in Jesus.” ⁵ When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ⁶ And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they began speaking with tongues and prophesying. ⁷ There were in all about twelve men.

After 18 months of ministry in Corinth, once again, conflict arises driving Paul from the city, and he leaves with his fellow tentmakers and co-workers, Priscilla and Aquila. Eventually, they come to Ephesus where Paul once again found an audience in the synagogue. Although they urged him to continue with them, Paul leaves to finish his 2nd missionary journey, eventually ending in Antioch. But the focus of our passage shifted back to Ephesus where we met Apollos. What a gifted and zealous man—preaching Jesus and standing against the Jews who stood against him. But for all his gifts and zeal, Apollos was missing key pieces of the gospel. Recognizing that loving the gospel includes handling it accurately, Priscilla and Aquila take Apollos aside, teaching him what he is missing. What an example of love for God on the part of all involved to accept both the responsibility to give and defend the gospel and to give and receive correction lovingly and humbly. Because of Apollos’ response to correction, Priscilla and Aquila gladly encourage him in his ministry, and when he left for Corinth in Achaia, they encourage the brethren there to receive him, and he disciplined and encouraged the believers there. But as we’ve seen throughout Acts, it doesn’t seem to matter WHO is highlighted (Peter, Philip, Paul, Priscilla, Aquila, or Apollos)—ALL are doing the same thing—living, Coram Deo—in the face of God—obeying and serving Him because of His greatness and right to rule, but also from richness of the treasure they had been given in the gospel. This perspective enabled them to persevere and is what you and I need to persevere with eyes on Christ. Church, join Paul, Priscilla, Aquila, and Apollos in singing the riches of the gospel.

***Hymn (Powerpoint): How Rich a Treasure We Possess**

Today, the focus shifts once again to Paul and he is on his third missionary journey. We find him in Ephesus dealing with similar issues Priscilla and Aquila had dealt with in Apollos’ understanding of the gospel. Notice a similar response to the teaching and correction from these disciples in Ephesus. **When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.** And once again, we see that both the leaders and followers show the evidence of the supernatural work of God making them disciples of Christ. The strength and perseverance needed to be faithful amidst perplexing choices, infinite needs, and a finite perspective of an infinite God comes from a gaze fixed on a very present God. God is faithful. Fix your hope on Him, and you too will be faithful in both worship and service.

***Hymn #350: ‘Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus *Pastoral Prayer: Pastor Jahn Choir: Here I Am, Lord Scripture: Romans 8:1–17**

Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ² For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. ³ For what the Law could not do, weak as it was through the flesh, God did: sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and as an offering for sin, He condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴ so that the requirement of the Law might be fulfilled in us, who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵ For those who are according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who are according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. ⁶ For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace, ⁷ because the mind set on the flesh is hostile toward God; for it does not subject itself to the law of God, for it is not even able to do so, ⁸ and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. ⁹ However, you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him. ¹⁰ If Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, yet the spirit is alive because of righteousness. ¹¹ But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you. ¹² So then, brethren, we are under obligation, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh— ¹³ for if you are living according to the flesh, you must die; but if by the Spirit you are putting to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴ For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. ¹⁵ For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶ The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him so that we may also be glorified with Him.

Offering: *Doxology:

You may be seated. So, have you been baptized? Well, so have they. How is yours different from theirs? Well THEY talk about John’s baptism. Okay, what place did baptism play in God’s kingdom before John’s baptism? How about after John’s baptism? Did you understand all that when YOU were baptized? Should you be baptized again? Would you know how to correct the focus of these believers? We are all at different places in our understanding of the gospel AND we are at different places in understanding God’s progressive revelation in redemptive history. Where is our hope? In the very prominent place of the Holy Spirit in the lives of new covenant believers. Romans 8 made it clear, **“Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. ⁹ However, you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him. ¹⁰ If Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, yet the spirit is alive because of righteousness.”** Your hope, your life, your ability to handle all the responsibilities of representing and serving a holy God and also the ability to humbly be corrected when you are missing pieces all come from the work of the Spirit. ¹³ **for if you are living according to the flesh, you must die; but if by the Spirit you are putting to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴ For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. ¹⁵ For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, “Abba! Father!”** The Holy Spirit’s work is NOT merely to help you be RIGHT, but instead, the Spirit works to bring you into fellowship with a real and present God who lets you call Him Abba. As pastor preaches, ask God for anything separating you from God to be revealed and weakened by the power of the Holy Spirit so your eyes can be opened to more gospel hope and kingdom opportunities for service.

***Hymn (Powerpoint): Holy Spirit, Living Breath of God**

Message: The Name Matters Acts 19:1-7

***Hymn #321: According to Thy Gracious Word**

The Lord’s Table

Communion. This tie God enabled between you and God through the work of Christ brings a tie with all those He has redeemed. This tie is not just natural affinity for the people in here who profess Christ. It is heaven centered because it is brought about by the God of heaven. It DOES call us to care for one another, to weep, to laugh, to serve, to forgive, but ALL of that comes from a focus on the day we will be with Him. Not only will our fellowship with the Lord not be a struggle in that day, but the by-product will also be that we won't have to struggle with our ties with each other. Sing the familiar and learn the new verses as we close.

***Hymn #286 (Powerpoint): Blest Be the Tie Prayer**