



Background

- God has opened doors for the gospel to be brought to the Gentiles
 - by the calling of Paul for that specific purpose (Acts 9)
 - by the inauguration by Peter going to Cornelius' (a Gentile) house to preach the gospel Acts 10)
- Paul embarked on a journey to preach the gospel in Asia Minor and Europe:
 - Paul's first missionary journey (13:1 – 14:28)
 - Distinguishing Judaism and Christianity culminating in the Jerusalem Council
 - Encountering pagan understanding of the divine
 - Jewish opposition grew
 - Paul's second missionary journey (15:36 – 18:32)
 - Encountering pagan understanding of life (philosophy)
 - Jewish opposition continued + Gentile opposition started
 - Providence of God
 - Paul's second missionary journey (18:23 – 21:17) [effectively ended at Acts 19:20]
 - Encountering pagan understanding of the supernatural (occults)
 - Gentile opposition escalates
 - Providence of God

ACTS OF PETER				ACTS OF PAUL			
JERUSALEM (EAST)				Missionary journey 1 13:1 – 14:28	Jerusalem Council 15: 1 - 35	Missionary journey 2 15: 36 – 18:22	Missionary journey 3 18:23 – 21:17
				ROME (WEST)			
JERUSALEM 1 7		JUDEA & SAMARIA 8 12		UTTERMOST PARTS OF THE WORLD 13 28			
CHURCH ESTABLISHED		CHURCH SCATTERED		CHURCH EXTENDED			
JEWISH PERIOD		TRANSITION		GENTILE PERIOD			
Church Born 1 2 3	Church grows through Testing 3 7	Church Scattered 8 9:31	Church embraces Gentiles 9:32 12	Church Extends Overseas 13 21:17		Church leaders on Trial 21:18 28	
Paul		Persecutor 7 8	Saved 9:1 9:31	Instructed 9:32 12	Missionary at Liberty 13 21:17	Missionary in Bonds 21:18 28	

Overview adapted from Jensen, Irving (1990). *Acts – A Self-Study Guide*. Moody Press. p 14

ACTS 18:23 - 19:41

18:23 – 19:7 The Word of God Prevails Over Ignorance

- 18:23 - 28 Aquila and Priscilla
 - 18:2, 3, 18, 19
- 19:1 - 7 John's Baptism
 - Luke 3:2 – 6; Mark 1:8
- The significance

19:8 - 10 The Word of God Prevails Over Evil Opposition

- Beyond proclaiming
- The outcome

19:11 - 20 The Word of God Prevails Over Counterfeit Power

- Difference between God's power and pagan magic

Summary statement: Acts 19:20

So the word of the Lord continued to increase and prevail mightily.

19:21 - 41 God's Providential Power Prevails Over Human Power

- The accusation
- The disturbance
- The resolution
- The irony



Think and Pray...

1. How can we be like Aquila and Priscilla in the way we help younger Christians in their evangelism?
 - a. What steps can we take for the next one year to deepen and broaden our understanding of the gospel that we may be adequately equip for the good work God has called us to do?

2. There are many counterfeit Christianity today.
 - a. Share your encounter/ a known encounter with some of these counterfeits and how you responded in that situation.

 - b. Which are the counterfeits we find difficult to pinpoint the actual doctrinal issues involved? Are we able to counter these counterfeits with God's word?
 - i. If yes, how did you counter it?
 - ii. If no, how can you be prepared the next time you encounter it?

3. What are the opposition you have faced/ are facing in your ministry in sharing the gospel to the young people/ children? Share specific situations that you have encountered for the last one year.
 - a. If we believe God is sovereign and His word prevails, would you commit your ministry to daily prayer to God, trusting that He work all things for His purpose and good?

 - b. Spend some to pray for the various aspects of these opposition:
 - i. The specific young people involved
 - ii. The opponents
 - iii. Yourself

ACTS 1:8

But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and **you shall be witnesses to Me** in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

