

## Paul in Ephesus

### Acts 20

Ephesus was a large city in Turkey with a population of 250 thousand people. Paul stayed here for two years. Kathy and I visited Ephesus in the 1970's. It's a beautiful place today and, no doubt, it was even more beautiful in the time of Paul. You can walk among the ruins and get a sense of what it was like when people from all over the world came to worship the goddess Diana, which was one of the seven Ancient Wonders of the World. Silversmiths made lots of money selling statues of Diana to tourists.

Paul's preaching began to put a dent in their sales because Paul preached about the only one true God and it was not Diana. Demetrius who was head of the silversmiths had a meeting and made accusations against Paul's preaching and how harmful it was for business.

The silversmiths became angry and incited a riot in Ephesus. They imprisoned two of Paul's followers. Paul wanted to go and rescue them, but his friends would not let him. Paul then left Ephesus and continued his journey to Rome.

### Every Day with God

Everywhere Paul goes he runs into some sort of turmoil. You wonder why he is so committed to spreading the word. Why doesn't he just return to Jerusalem and lead an easier life. He could fish, make tents, and visit friends. He chooses the opposite and puts his life in peril every day.



Photo: Superman makes the world a better place in the comic strips. With the help of our Super God, we can make it a better place in the real world.

If each of us could possess just a tenth of Paul's commitment to spread the word, the world would be a better place.

**Prayer:** We thank you for Paul. Help us to be more like Paul.