

Thursday Morning Bible Study

MESSAGE TO THE CHURCH AT EPHESUS 2-6-20

1 COR. 8:1 KNOWLEDGE PUFFS A PERSON UP WITH PRIDE; BUT LOVE BUILDS OTHERS UP

THIS IS A MESSAGE TO:

- THE Church AT EPHESUS SPECIFICALLY
- TO all THE CHURCHES THROUGH ALL OF CHURCH HISTORY

THE CHURCH AT EPHESUS:

- WAS THE MOST prominent OF THE 7 CHURCHES
 - WAS THE Mother CHURCH
 - FOUNDED THROUGH THE MINISTRY OF THE APOSTLE Paul
 - PAUL STAYED WITH THEM FOR 3 YEARS
 - THIS CHURCH RECEIVED 2 LETTERS IN THE BIBLE
- ITS LEADERS INCLUDED:
- Aquila and Priscilla
 - Apollos
 - Timothy

ACTS 19:11 GOD WAS PERFORMING UNUSUAL MIRACLES THROUGH PAUL. EVEN HANDKERCHIEFS AND APRONS HE HAD USED WERE TAKEN TO THOSE WHO WERE ILL, AND THEIR DISEASES WERE DRIVEN AWAY, AND THE EVIL SPIRITS WOULD GO OUT FROM THEM.

V. 18 MANY OF THE BELIEVERS CAME, PUBLICLY ADMITTING AND REVEALING WHAT THEY HAD DONE. MANY OF THOSE WHO HAD PRACTISED MAGIC BROUGHT THEIR BOOKS TOGETHER AND BURNT THEM IN PUBLIC. THEY ADDED UP THE PRICE OF THE BOOKS, AND THE TOTAL CAME TO FIFTY THOUSAND SILVER COINS.

V. 23 IT WAS AT THIS TIME THAT THERE WAS SERIOUS TROUBLE IN EPHESUS BECAUSE OF THE WAY OF THE LORD.

V. 29 THE CITY WAS FILLED WITH CONFUSION, AND THEY RUSHED WITH ONE ACCORD INTO THE THEATRE, DRAGGING ALONG GAIUS AND ARISTARCHUS, PAUL'S TRAVELING COMPANIONS FROM MACEDONIA.

THE CITY OF EPHESUS:

- CALLED "THE light OF ASIA"
- IT HAD THE GREATEST harbor IN ASIA MINOR
- IT WAS A TREMENDOUS trade CENTER
- Four GREAT ROADS WENT THROUGH THE CITY
- KNOWN AS THE market PLACE OR GATEWAY TO ASIA
- BECAME KNOWN AS THE HIGHWAY OF THE Martyrs
- IT WAS A Free CITY POLITICALLY (self governed)
- FAMOUS FOR THE EPHESIAN game
- HAD A MASSIVE theatre
- CENTER OF THE WORSHIP OF Diana (ARTEMIS)

- TEMPLE OF DIANA WAS ONE OF THE 7 Ancient OF THE WORLD

QUOTE FROM HERACLITUS: "THE MORALS OF THE TEMPLE WERE WORSE THAN THE MORALS OF ANIMALS, FOR EVEN DOGS DO NOT MUTILATE EACH OTHER. THE PEOPLE HERE ARE FIT ONLY TO BE DROWNED."

JESUS COMMENDS THEM FOR:

1. YOUR deeds
2. YOUR toil
*TO LABOR OR WORK TO THE POINT OF SWEAT OR exhaustion
3. YOUR perseverance
MEANS:
* Endurance
* Patience
4. YOU CANNOT TOLERATE evil MEN
EP. 4:27 DO NOT GIVE THE DEVIL AN OPPORTUNITY
ACTS 20:29-30 AFTER MY DEPARTURE, SAVAGE WOLVES WILL COME IN AMONG YOU NOT SPARING THE FLOCK AND FROM AMONG YOUR OWN SELVES MEN WILL ARISE, SPEAKING PERVERSE THINGS TO DRAW AWAY THE DISCIPLES AFTER THEM. THEREFORE, BE ON THE ALERT REMEMBERING THAT NIGHT AND DAY FOR A PERIOD OF THREE YEARS I DID NOT CEASE TO ADMONISH EACH ONE WITH TEARS.
5. THEY WERE CHARACTERIZED BY SPIRITUAL discernment
6. YOU HAVE perseverance
7. YOU HAVE endured FOR MY NAMESAKE
8. AND HAVE NOT GROWN weary
9. YOU HATE THE DEEDS OF THE Nicolaitans
*A FALSE TEACHER WHO LEADS PEOPLE INTO DESTRUCTIVE Sin

EZEKIEL 16:8 "THEN I PASSED BY YOU AND SAW YOU, AND BEHOLD, YOU WERE AT THE TIME FOR LOVE; SO I SPREAD MY SKIRT OVER YOU AND COVERED YOUR NAKEDNESS. I ALSO SWORE TO YOU AND ENTERED INTO A COVENANT WITH YOU SO THAT YOU BECAME MINE. THEN I BATHED YOU WITH WATER, WASHED OFF YOUR BLOOD FROM YOU AND ANOINTED YOU WITH OIL. I ALSO CLOTHED YOU WITH EMBROIDERED CLOTH AND PUT SANDALS OF PORPOISE SKIN ON YOUR FEET; AND I WRAPPED YOU WITH FINE LINEN AND COVERED YOU WITH SILK. I ADORNED YOU WITH ORNAMENTS, PUT BRACELETS ON YOUR HANDS AND A NECKLACE AROUND YOUR NECK. I ALSO PUT A RING IN YOUR NOSTRIL, EARRINGS IN YOUR EARS AND A BEAUTIFUL CROWN ON YOUR HEAD. THUS YOU WERE ADORNED WITH GOLD AND SILVER, AND YOUR DRESS WAS OF FINE LINEN, SILK AND EMBROIDERED CLOTH. YOU ATE FINE FLOUR, HONEY AND OIL; SO YOU WERE EXCEEDINGLY BEAUTIFUL AND ADVANCED TO ROYALTY. THEN YOUR FAME WENT FORTH AMONG THE NATIONS ON ACCOUNT OF YOUR BEAUTY, FOR IT WAS PERFECT BECAUSE OF MY SPLENDOR WHICH I BESTOWED ON YOU," DECLARES THE LORD GOD. "BUT YOU TRUSTED IN YOUR BEAUTY AND PLAYED THE HARLOT BECAUSE OF YOUR FAME, AND YOU Poured OUT YOUR HARLOTRIES ON EVERY PASSERBY WHO MIGHT BE WILLING."

WHAT SHOULD THEY DO?

- v5
1. Remember FROM WHERE YOU HAVE FALLEN
 2. Repent
*TO LOSE YOUR FIRST LOVE IS A Sin
 3. DO THE DEEDS YOU DID AT first

CONSEQUENCE: Remove YOUR LAMPSTAND