

God's Word Versus Magic **Acts 19:8-20**

Message of God's kingdom is rejected by Jews but spreads. 8-10

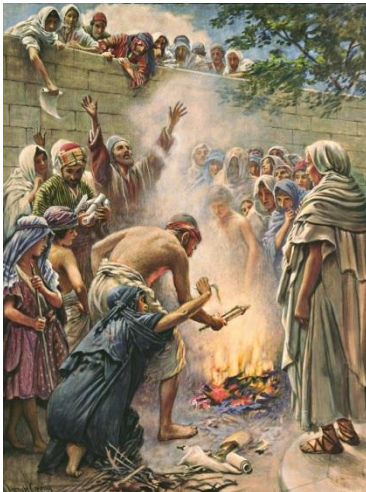
- ❖ Opposition lands Paul in a neutral site, which works great for two whole years.
- ❖ All Asia heard the Word of the Lord, which implies all the Rev. 2, 3 churches.

Miracles are performed at an extraordinary level. 11-17

- ❖ Paul's miracles here are extra stunning, lit. *not ordinary*. Paul is presented as able to do unique deeds very similar to Peter, see 14:8, 16:26, 20:10.
- ❖ Demonic forces were faced earlier (5:16, 8:7 13:10, 16:16), but more here.
- ❖ Paul's power over demons is contrasted to the ineffectual seven exorcists.
What was exposed here by this botched exorcism?
- ❖ Paul's success and the failed exorcism create fear/honor for the Lord Jesus.

Magic books are dumped for God's Word. 18-20

- ❖ Whom did these new believers confess their practices to, and why do it?
Note that secrecy is a key part of sorcery, Ex. 7:11, 8:7, 18.
- ❖ Why is the occult so tempting today, especially to millennials?
- ❖ These events are seen as a victory through God's Word, v. 20 (cf. v. 10) and v. 20 is a further "progress report," as in 9:31, 12:24, 16:5.



Book burning is still necessary today.

In view of an alarming trend today among the younger generation to dabble in witchcraft and astrology, what should we as parents be sure to do?

