

Acts 19:24-28

# When Faith Challenges Fortune

  
St. John  
Baptist Church  
LOVE GOD • LOVE PEOPLE • MAKE DISCIPLES



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May 4<sup>th</sup> | 10:45 AM CDT

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## Sermon Notes

Acts 19:24–28 (ESV)

<sup>24</sup>For a man named Demetrius, a silversmith, who made silver shrines of Artemis, brought no little business to the craftsmen.

<sup>25</sup>These he gathered together, with the workmen in similar trades, and said, “Men, you know that from this business we have our wealth.

<sup>26</sup>And you see and hear that not only in Ephesus but in almost all of Asia this Paul has persuaded and turned away a great many people, saying that gods made with hands are not gods.

<sup>27</sup>And there is danger not only that this trade of ours may come into disrepute but also that the temple of the great goddess Artemis may be counted as nothing, and that she may even be deposed from her magnificence, she whom all Asia and the world worship.”

<sup>28</sup>When they heard this they were enraged and were crying out, “Great is Artemis of the Ephesians!”

**May 4, 2025**

**(Answer key located on back page)**

## **INTRODUCTION**

Acts 19 shows us what happens when the gospel confronts what we make money from, revealing what we truly \_\_\_\_\_.

### **I. \_\_\_\_\_ Problem: When faith challenges establish financial systems. (Acts 19:24-25)**

- When Paul preached about Jesus, new believers stopped buying \_\_\_\_\_.
- This wasn't just about lost sales—it exposed the connection between spiritual \_\_\_\_\_ and economic systems.
- The real question isn't whether faith and finances will sometimes conflict—they will. The real question is which one will \_\_\_\_\_ when they do.

### **II. People \_\_\_\_\_: When Converts Change Consumer Habits (Acts 19:26)**

- What bothered Demetrius wasn't protests but Paul teaching \_\_\_\_\_ truth.
- True belief changes \_\_\_\_\_.
- Real faith always affects our \_\_\_\_\_ choices.

### **III. Power \_\_\_\_\_: When Profits Are Protected By Deception (Acts 19:27-28)**

- Demetrius wrapped his \_\_\_\_\_ concerns in religious language.
- He made it sound like a \_\_\_\_\_ crisis rather than an economic one.
- A common tactic when truth threatens established systems is to create \_\_\_\_\_ and emotional chaos.

**PERSONAL REFLECTION:**

What financial area of my life is most resistant to God's lordship?

**COMMITMENT:**

This week, I commit to surrender the following "silver shrine" to God:

**KEY VERSE TO REMEMBER:**

"For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it." — 1 Timothy 6:7

**NEXT STEPS:**

☐ Review my bank statement this week with spiritual eyes.

☐ Ask a trusted friend to hold me accountable for my financial decisions.

☐ Schedule time to revise my budget to align with Kingdom priorities.

## Answer Key

<p><b>Introduction:</b> Worship</p> <p><b>I. Profit Problem:</b> <i>When faith challenges establish financial systems.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Idols</li><li>• Identity</li><li>• Yield</li></ul> <p><b>II. People Persuaded:</b> <i>When Converts Change Consumer Habits:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• One</li><li>• Actions</li><li>• Money</li></ul>	<p><b>III. Power Panic:</b> <i>When Profits Are Protected by Deception:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Financial</li><li>• Religious</li><li>• Noise</li></ul>
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### The Good News

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, (Romans 5:1)

### The Bad News

for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, (Romans 3:23)

### The Ugly News

For the wages of sin is death, ... (Romans 6:23a)

### The Great News

... but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.  
(Romans 6:23a)

### Guess What?

You can become a Christian right now and experience salvation and the gift of eternal life through God's Son the Lord Jesus Christ! Simply Pray this Prayer Right Now! **"God thank you for Jesus Christ who died on the cross for my sins. Thank you for receiving what Jesus did for me on the cross as payment for my sins. Please forgive me for my sins. Right now I accept Jesus into my heart and ask that he become my Savior and Lord! Amen!"**

If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved. (Romans 10:9–10)

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