

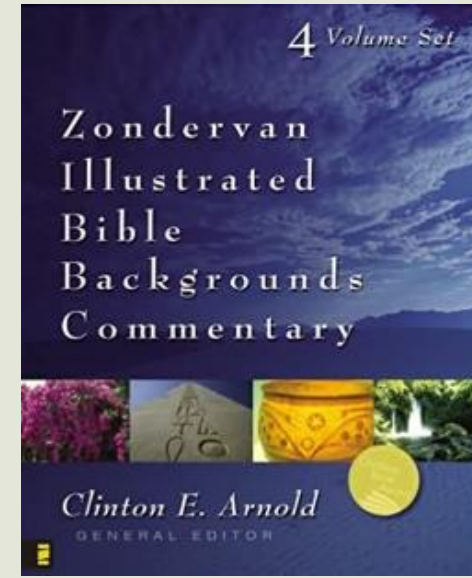
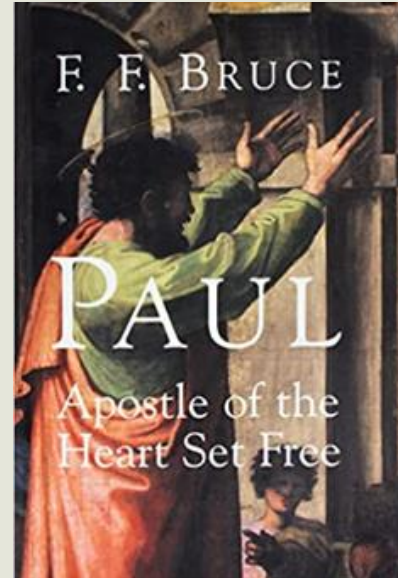
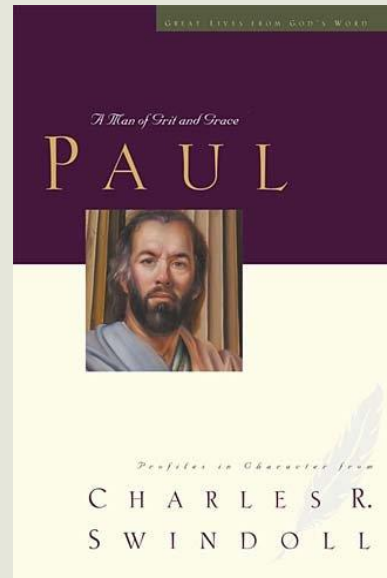
The background is a dark grey chalkboard with various white chalk sketches. On the left, there's a large drawing of a microscope. Above it is a globe showing continents. Below the microscope are some books and a stack of papers. On the right, there are sketches of a percentage sign, an exclamation mark, and a right-angle symbol. The overall theme is educational and scientific.

Paul – Lesson 13

New Testament Studies

CBC B&B Sunday School
July 9, 2023

Source Material



Companion Sources

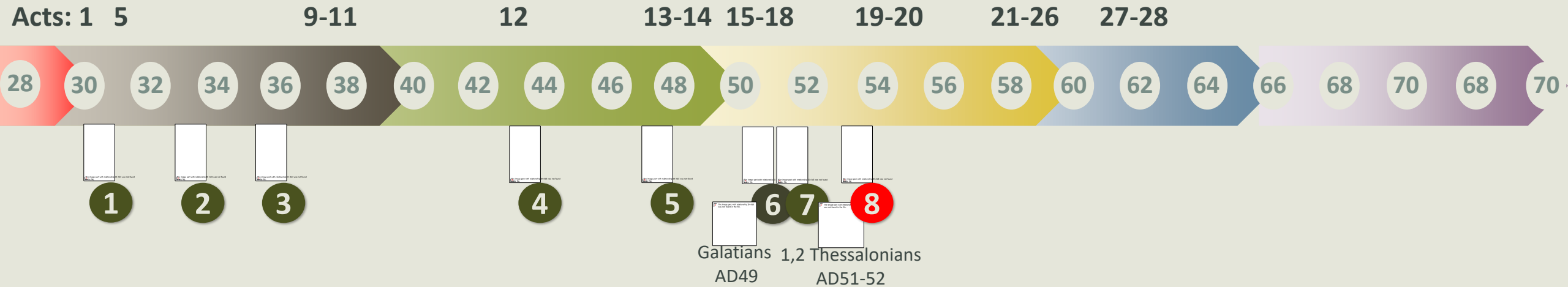
Lesson 13 Intro...

- Acts 16:1-18:22 (~ AD 50-52):
 - Where we last saw Paul, he had just completed his second missionary journey, and have arrived back in Syrian Antioch around the winter of AD52.

Acts 18:24-19:20 [NASB]

Marks of a True Christian
(Presence of the Holy Spirit)

Chronology of Acts / Life & Ministry of Paul



1 Ascension – Acts 1
 Pentecost – Acts 2
 Apostles before Sanhedrin – Acts 5

2 Stoning of Stephen – Acts 7

3 Paul's Conversion – Acts 9

4 Paul to Antioch – Acts 11

5 Paul's First Missionary Journey – Acts 13-14

6 Jerusalem Council – Acts 15

7 Paul's Second Missionary Journey Begins

8 Paul's Third Missionary Journey Begins

*Map used by Permission – Standard Bible Atlas



*Paul's Third
Missionary Journey*

Acts 18:24-19:1 [NASB]

²⁴ Now **a Jew named Apollos**, an Alexandrian by birth, an eloquent man, came to Ephesus; and he was mighty in the Scriptures. ²⁵ This man had been instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in spirit, he was speaking and teaching accurately the things concerning Jesus, being acquainted only with the baptism of John; ²⁶ and he began to speak out boldly in the synagogue. But when Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they took him aside and explained to him the way of God more accurately. ²⁷ And when he wanted to go across to Achaia, the brethren encouraged him and wrote to the disciples to welcome him; and when he had arrived, he greatly helped those who had believed through grace, ²⁸ for he powerfully refuted the Jews in public, demonstrating by the Scriptures that Jesus was the Christ.

Apollos

- An eloquent man – an itinerant teacher skilled in rhetoric speak in ancient Greece; able to reason with clever / fallacious arguments.
- Alexandrian; mighty in Scripture – Came from Egypt; Scripture source = Septuagint (Egypt)
- Speaking and teaching accurately concerning Jesus – able to prove that Jesus is the Messiah from OT prophecy
- (but) acquainted only with the baptism of John (the Baptist) – Jews who responded to John's ministry of repentance; but lacked understanding about Christ's death and resurrection

*Map used by Permission – Standard Bible Atlas



Paul's Third Missionary Journey

Acts 19:1-7 [NASB]

It happened that while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul passed through the upper country and came to Ephesus, and found some disciples. ² He said to them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?” And they *said* to him, “No, we have not even heard whether there is a Holy Spirit.” ³ And he said, “**Into what then were you baptized?**” And they said, “Into John’s baptism.” ⁴ Paul said, “John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in Him who was coming after him, that is, in Jesus.”

Acts 19:1-7 [NASB]

⁵ When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ⁶ And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, **the Holy Spirit came on them**, and they *began* speaking with tongues and prophesying. ⁷ There were in all about twelve men.

Twelve Followers of Christ

- Isolated / separated from other Christ followers
- Jews? Gentiles?
- Baptized into John the Baptist's baptism – baptism of repentance
- Lacked baptism of the Holy Spirit – not truly saved.

*Map used by Permission – Standard Bible Atlas



Paul's Third Missionary Journey

Acts 19:8-20 [NASB]

⁸ And he entered the synagogue and continued speaking out boldly for three months, reasoning and persuading *them* about the kingdom of God. ⁹ But when some were becoming hardened and disobedient, speaking evil of the Way before the people, he withdrew from them and took away the disciples, reasoning daily in the school of Tyrannus. ¹⁰ This took place for two years, so that all who lived in Asia heard the word of the Lord, both Jews and Greeks.

Acts 19:8-20 [NASB]

¹¹ God was performing extraordinary miracles by the hands of Paul, ¹² so that handkerchiefs or aprons were even carried from his body to the sick, and the diseases left them and the evil spirits went out. ¹³ But also some of the **Jewish exorcists**, who went from place to place, attempted to name over those who had the evil spirits the name of the Lord Jesus, saying, "I adjure you by Jesus whom Paul preaches." ¹⁴ Seven sons of one Sceva, a Jewish chief priest, were doing this.

Acts 19:8-20 [NASB]

¹⁵ And the evil spirit answered and said to them, “**I recognize Jesus, and I know about Paul, but who are you?**” ¹⁶ And the man, in whom was the evil spirit, leaped on them and subdued all of them and overpowered them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded. ¹⁷ This became known to all, both Jews and Greeks, who lived in Ephesus; and fear fell upon them all and the name of the Lord Jesus was being magnified. ¹⁸ Many also of those who had believed kept coming, confessing and disclosing their practices.

Acts 19:8-20 [NASB]

¹⁹ And many of those who practiced magic brought their books together and *began* burning them in the sight of everyone; and they counted up the price of them and found it fifty thousand pieces of silver.

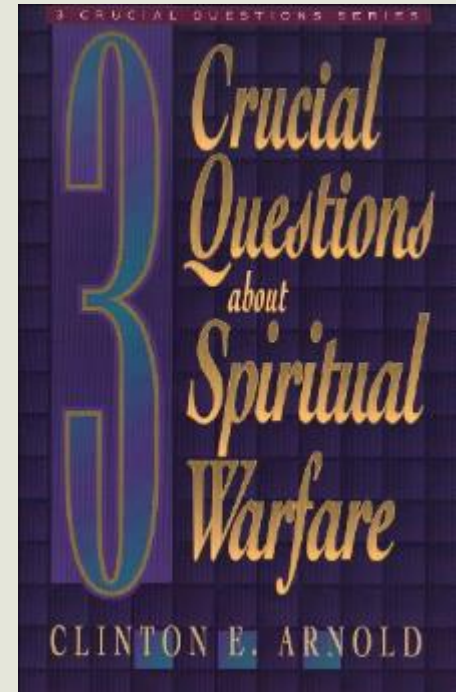
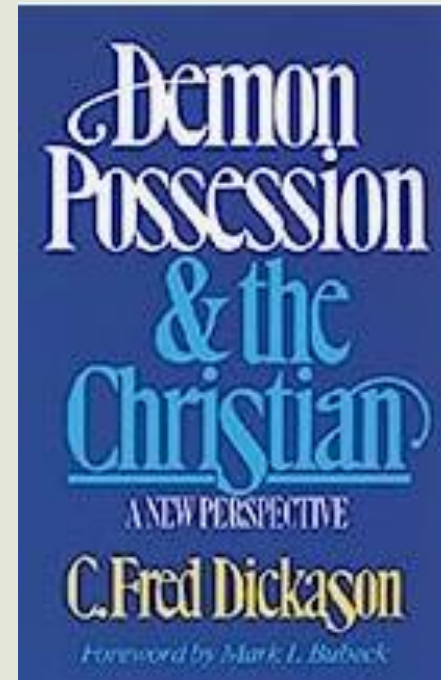
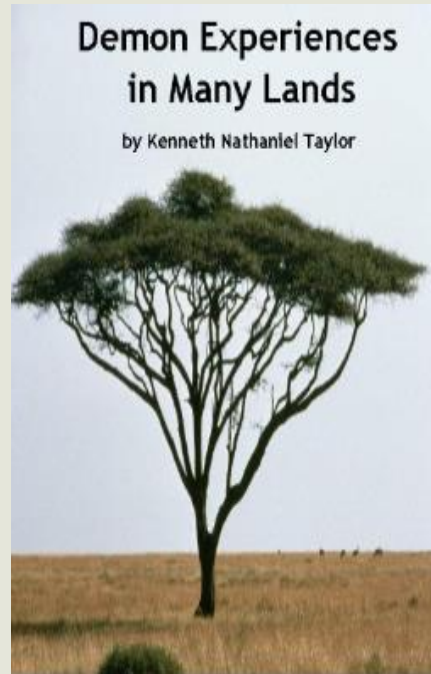
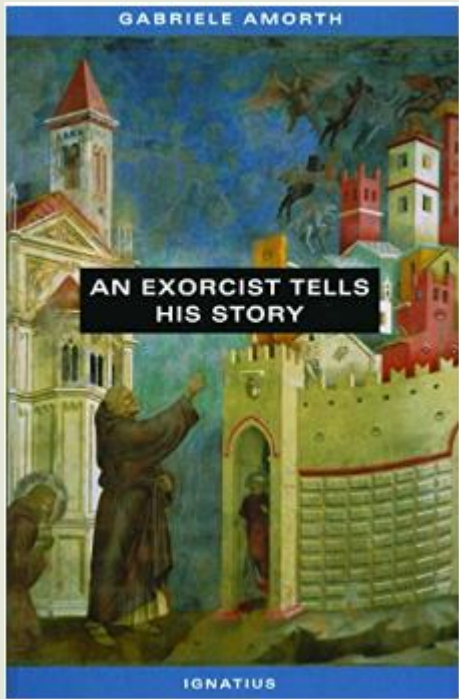
²⁰ So the word of the Lord was growing mightily and prevailing.

Acts 19:11-20 [NASB]

Class Discussion –

Can Christians be Demon Possessed / Demon Influenced?

Acts 19:11-20 [NASB]



Acts 19:8-20 [NASB]

¹⁵ And the evil spirit answered and said to them, “**I recognize Jesus, and I know about Paul, but who are you?**” ¹⁶ And the man, in whom was the evil spirit, leaped on them and subdued all of them and overpowered them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded. ¹⁷ This became known to all, both Jews and Greeks, who lived in Ephesus; and fear fell upon them all and the name of the Lord Jesus was being magnified. ¹⁸ Many also of those who had believed kept coming, confessing and disclosing their practices.

Jewish Exorcist

- Not Christians – did not know Jesus
- Not Baptized with the Holy Spirit
- Invoked the name of Christ without authority
- Lucky to be alive!

Principles I

- **Knowledge about Scripture or about Christ is not enough to save a person.**

The three occurrences in these passages have one thing in common, and that is that all of them know about Christ. However, as it relates to Apollos and the twelve followers, their salvation journey was not complete as none of them had the Holy Spirit indwelled in them. The Holy Spirit's presence in a believer is the mark of a true Christian. One has to receive Christ and be baptized (indwelled by) in the Holy Spirit to be truly saved.

Principles II

- **Do not tangle with the supernatural, especially if you're not a Christian.** Evil spirits can perform supernatural activities that world would perceive as sorcery, voodoo, lucky charms, or the likes. When humanity tangles with evil spirits to request supernatural outcomes (prosperity, health, wealth, etc), the best case scenario is that they deceive us into becoming their slave. The worst case scenario is spiritual possession. The Jews who took their knowledge of Christ – without being believers, without the Holy Spirit in them – and challenged these evil spirits are effectively playing with fire. They were lucky to have been able to escape with only physical wounds and humiliation.

Principles III

- **Changing the venue can open up opportunities for better Gospel ministry.** Paul's encounter with the unbelieving Jews in Ephesus were very much like that in Corinth. The unbelieving Jews lacked nobility and thus, became a serious obstacle to the advancement of the Gospel ministry. Rather than spending time daily bickering with them and absorbing the emotional toll, Paul simply took the believers and started a church plant elsewhere – just as he did in Corinth. In our own gospel ministries, don't be married to the physical location, especially if that current location is an obstacle.

Questions