

Mission Stories

Acts 18:18 - 19:41

I. Introduction

II. The kingdom advances through a faithful church and God.

A. The kingdom expands through a faithful church.

1. Multiplying workers 18:18 - 20; 18:24 - 28

2 Timothy 2:1, 2 You then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus, and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.

2. Teaching a clear gospel 18:24 - 26; 19:1 - 7

Colossians 1:5b, 6 Of this you have heard before in the word of the truth, the gospel, which has come to you, as indeed in the whole world it is bearing fruit and growing—as it also does among you, since the day you heard it and understood the grace of God in truth...

3. Saturating their region with the word 19:8-10

2 Timothy 4:2 ...preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching.

B. The kingdom prospers through a faithful God.

1. The power of Jesus 19:11- 20

Luke 10:17- 20 The seventy-two returned with joy, saying, “Lord, even the demons are subject to us in your name!” And he said to them, “I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall hurt you. Nevertheless, do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.”

2. The protection of God (18:14, 15) 19:21- 41

Matthew 10:27- 31 “What I tell you in the dark, say in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim on the housetops. And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. But even the hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows.”

“One lesson that history teaches is the paradoxical truth that the church thrives under persecution. Effectiveness and persecution usually go hand in hand, since an effective church is a bold church, and a bold church is often a church made strong through suffering.” - John MacArthur

III. Conclusion