

When Worldviews Collide

Acts 19:21-41

And now, Lord, look upon their threats and grant to your servants to continue to speak your word with all boldness. - Acts 4:28-29

In our day, with the rigors of political correctness, the idea of confrontation and bold critique of forms of paganism and idolatry are politically incorrect. We have become in many cases, at least in America, the church quiescent as we just stand by and watch our own generation give themselves, as the people of the ancient world did, to idolatry. - R.C. Sproul

"I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." - John 14:6

"Men, you know that from this business we have our wealth." - Ac 19:25

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. - Acts 19:26

"God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." - John 4:24.

Therefore, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that "an idol has no real existence," and that "there is no God but one." ⁵ For although there may

be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as indeed there are many “gods” and many “lords”—⁶ yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist. - 1 Corinthians 8:4-6

“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.” - Acts 19:27

Now some cried out one thing, some another, for the assembly was in confusion, and most of them did not know why they had come together. - Acts 19:29

In crowds the foolish, ignorant, and envious persons are freed from the sense of their insignificance and powerlessness, and are possessed instead by the notion of brutal and temporary but immense strength. - Gustave Le Bon, *The Crowd*

Judgements accepted by crowds are merely judgements forced upon them and never judgments adopted after discussion. - Gustave Le Bon, *The Crowd*

..for the assembly was in confusion, and most of them did not know why they had come together. - Acts 19:32

"For we really are in danger of being charged with rioting today, since there is no cause that we can give to justify this commotion." ⁴¹ And when he had said these things, he dismissed the assembly. - Acts 19:40-41