

October 3rd & 4th, 2026

When Kingdoms Clash

When the Gospel advances, idols are exposed, darkness resists, and truth prevails

Acts 19:21-41

The kingdom of God advances through the truth of the Gospel, exposing deception and confronting the idolatry that enslaves human hearts, demonstrating that God's truth delivers people from the domain of darkness.

Acts 19:20-23 "So the word of the Lord continued to increase and prevail mightily. ²¹Now after these events Paul resolved in the Spirit to pass through Macedonia and Achaia and go to Jerusalem, saying, 'After I have been there, I must also see Rome.' ²²And having sent into Macedonia two of his helpers, Timothy and Erastus, he himself stayed in Asia for a while. ²³About that time there arose no little disturbance concerning the Way."

The Clash of Kingdoms

- ❖ From Genesis to Revelation, throughout the history of Israel, in the manifestation of Christ, and throughout the history of Christianity, the Lordship of Christ challenges the domain of darkness.
 - ✦ The advancement of God's kingdom inevitably confronts darkness.
- ❖ The kingdom of God does not coexist with idols because the kingdom of Christ does not compete with false gods; it exposes them.
 - ✦ The kingdom of God reveals dark supernatural powers.

Daniel 10:12-13 "Then he said to me, 'Fear not, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your heart to understand and humbled yourself before your God, your words have been heard, and I have come because of your words. ¹³The prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty-one days, but Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, for I was left there with the kings of Persia,"'

📖 Mark 9:17-20

📖 Acts 6:8-12

- Religious systems are countered.
- Idolatrous practices are threatened.
- Political powers are exposed.
- Behavioral patterns are challenged.

Acts 19:28-34

The Deception of Darkness

- ❖ The purpose of Satan from the very beginning has been to bring disaster through lies and confusion.
 - ✦ Darkness captivates the world through deception, distorted desires, fear, greed, and confusion.

📖 Genesis 3:1-5

John 8:44b "When [Satan] lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies."

❖ Darkness deceives by convincing people that the Truth is dangerously limiting and that lies are true.

↳ Satan appeals to greed.

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

James 3:14-16 "But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth. ¹⁵This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. ¹⁶For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice."

↳ Satan leads people to live with reprobate minds.

Romans 1:21,28 "For although they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks to Him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened." "And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done."

↳ Satan brings people to confusion.

Acts 19:29 "So the city was filled with the confusion, and they rushed together into the theater, dragging with them Gaius and Aristarchus, Macedonians who were Paul's companions in travel."

Acts 19:32 "Some therefore cried one thing and some another, for the assembly was confused, and most of them did not know why they had come together."

The Triumph of Truth

❖ The solution for freedom in the fallen world and the Church is the establishment of the truth.

↳ God's kingdom advances through the proclamation, belief, and obedience of the truth.

Acts 6:7 "And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith."

Acts 12:24 "But the word of God increased and multiplied."

Acts 18:9 "And the Lord said to Paul one night in a vision, 'Do not be afraid, but go on speaking and do not be silent,'"

Acts 19:8-10 "And he entered the synagogue and for three months spoke boldly, reasoning and persuading them about the kingdom of God. ⁹But when some became stubborn and continued in unbelief, speaking evil of the Way before the congregation, he withdrew from them and took the disciples with him, reasoning daily in the hall of Tyrannus. ¹⁰This continued for two years, so that all the residents of Asia heard the word of the Lord, both Jews and Greeks."

Acts 19:20 "So the word of the Lord continued to increase and prevail mightily."

↳ The revelation of the truth.

John 1:14,17 "And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth." "For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ."

↳ The obedience of the truth.

John 8:31-32 "So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed Him, 'If you abide in My word, you are truly My disciples, ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.'"

↳ The victory of the truth.

📖 Acts 19:35-41