

# Riot in Ephesus!

## "The Life of Paul" episode 32

### Acts 19:23-41

"Every spring devotees of the Mother Goddess converged on Ephesus for Artemisia, the great festival which worship, trade, and gaiety made the highlight of the city's year. Processions marched from the Temple of Artemis to the north gate, on below the theater and along the marble way, then up the hill by the city hall and out by the Magnesia Gate....


It was also the prime sales season for the important guild of silversmiths, whose replicas of the Artemis idol were normally in heavy demand. This year 55, however, the silversmiths suffered a slump, a remarkable testimony to the success of Paul's mission. Hundreds of visitors were refusing to buy; some because, as Christians, they were treating Artemisia merely as an annual outing, a chance to hear Paul again and to meet fellow believers but no longer to purchase silver goddesses to take to the temple for blessing; and others because they were converted to Christ during the festival.


The silversmiths had lost sales enough already. One of the biggest employers, Demetrius, in a rage called a protest meeting ..."


John Pollock, *The Apostle: A Life of Paul*

 The enemies of truth can get really omoric! 19:32-34

 Once in awhile, take a step back and laugh.

 You can earn respect without promising. 19:30-31, 32-41

 Win the respect of outsiders. 1 Thess 4:12

 Behind the scenes, God watches over his \_\_\_\_\_.

 Can you feel the love of your Father for you?

Next week: *Thanksgiving Service of Praise...and Feast!*