

Spiritual Warfare

Full Armor of God

Lesson 01

Prepare for Battle Background Information

Ephesians 6:10-18

Philip Giorgio

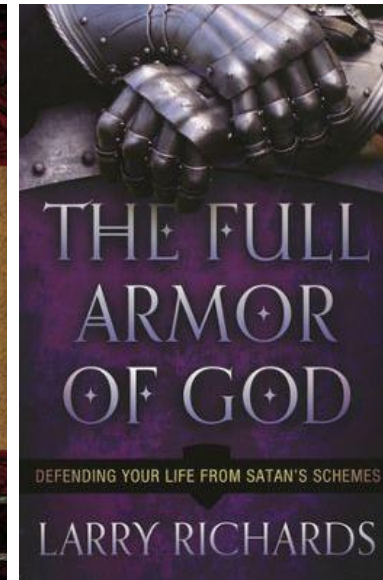
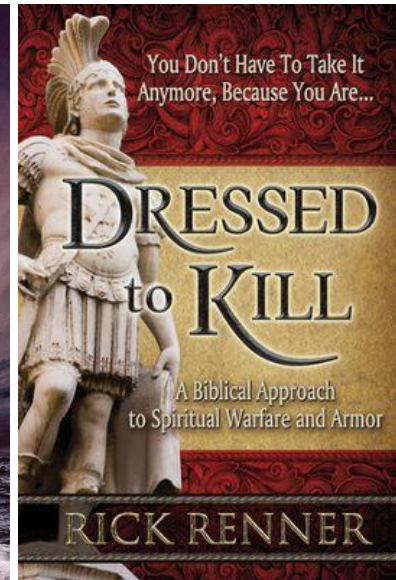
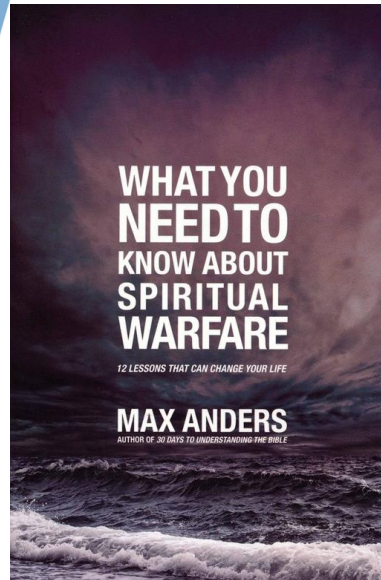
Sojourners Sunday School Class

S03:GM04:L01



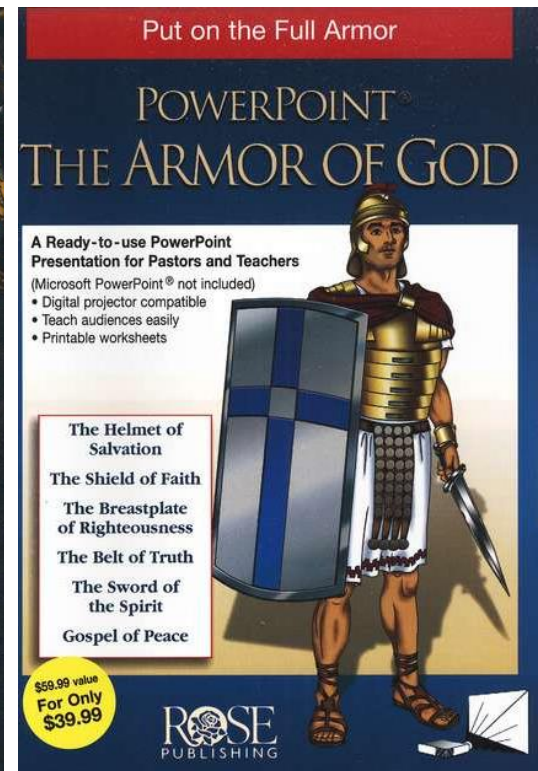
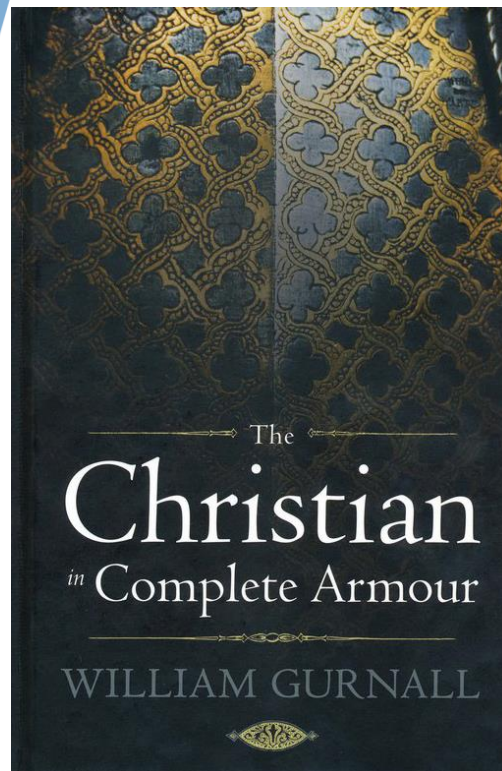


Reference





Reference



SPIRITUAL

WARFARE

The
WHOLE
ARMOR
of GOD

"PUT ON THE
FULL
ARMOR
OF GOD..."

- EPHESIANS 6:11



JOSE
PUBLISHING

SPIRITUAL WARFARE

ARE YOU READY FOR BATTLE?



Course Outline

Course Outline - Lessons

■ Spiritual Warfare: Full Armor of God

- Lesson 01: Prepare for Battle: BACKGROUND INFORMATION
- Lesson 02: Nature of the Battle: SPIRITUAL WARFARE
- Lesson 03: The Battlefield: THE INVISIBLE WAR
- Lesson 04: Strategic Planning: BE STRONG IN THE LORD
- Lesson 05: Enemy Tactics: SCHEMES OF THE DEVIL
- Lesson 06: Engagement: WRESTLING WITH THE ENEMY
- Lesson 07: Armed for Battle: BELT OF TRUTH
- Lesson 08: Armed for Battle: BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS
- Lesson 09: Armed for Battle: SHOES OF PEACE
- Lesson 10: Armed for Battle: SHIELD OF FAITH
- Lesson 11: Armed for Battle: HELMET OF SALVATION
- Lesson 12: Armed for Battle: SWORD OF THE SPIRIT
- Lesson 13: Sustained C³I: PRAYING ALWAYS

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Lesson Outline

Lesson 01 - Outline

▪ Spiritual Warfare: Full Armor of God

• Lesson 01: Prepare for Battle: BACKGROUND INFORMATION

✓ SCRIPTURAL CONTEXT

- Main Scripture Text - [Ephesians 6:10-18](#)
- Book Outline - [Ephesians](#)

✓ HISTORICAL CONTEXT

- Author - [Paul the Apostle](#)
- Audience - [People of Ephesus](#)
- Artemis - [Goddess Diana](#)



Prepare for Battle:

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Scriptural Context

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Main Scriptural Text: The Whole Armor of God

THE WHOLE ARMOR OF GOD

EPHESIANS 6:10-18

¹⁰ Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. ¹¹ Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. ¹² For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual *hosts* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*. ¹³ Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. ¹⁴ Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, ¹⁵ and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; ¹⁶ above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. ¹⁷ And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; ¹⁸ praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints—

Scriptural Context - Armor Metaphors

Armor Elements & Spiritual Truth

ELEMENT		RESOURCE
Defensive	Belt	TRUTH
	Breastplate	RIGHTEOUSNESS
	Shoes	GOSPEL OF PEACE
	Shield	FAITH
	Helmet	SALVATION
	Sword	THE SPIRIT
<i>Comms Gear</i>		PRAYING ALWAYS

- First Five Armor Elements represent defensive capability
- Sixth Armor Element represents offensive capability
- Seventh Armor Element represents our continued planning, monitoring and control capabilities.
 - Command, Control, Communications & Intelligence [C³I]



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Scriptural Context - Book Outline: Armor Metaphor POV

BOOK OF EPHESIANS STRUCTURE						
ACTS 19	1:1-23	2:1-10	2:11-4:16	4:17-5:7	5:8-6:9	6:10-24
<i>Intro</i>	Helmet	Shield	Shoes	Breastplate	Belt	<i>Summary</i>
<i>3 events</i>	SALVATION	FAITH	PEACE	RIGHTEOUSNESS	TRUTH	<i>Finally ...</i>

EPHESIANS 6:10-18

Ephesus was a center of satanic activity.

ACTS 19		
#	VERSES	SUMMARY
1	11-12	Unusual Miracles of Paul: Casting out evil spirits.
2	13-17	Exorcism Gone Wrong: Seven sons of Sceva
3	18-20	Book Burning: Paul's victory over evil spirits affects the community.



Prepare for Battle:

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Historical Context

Lesson 01 - Outline

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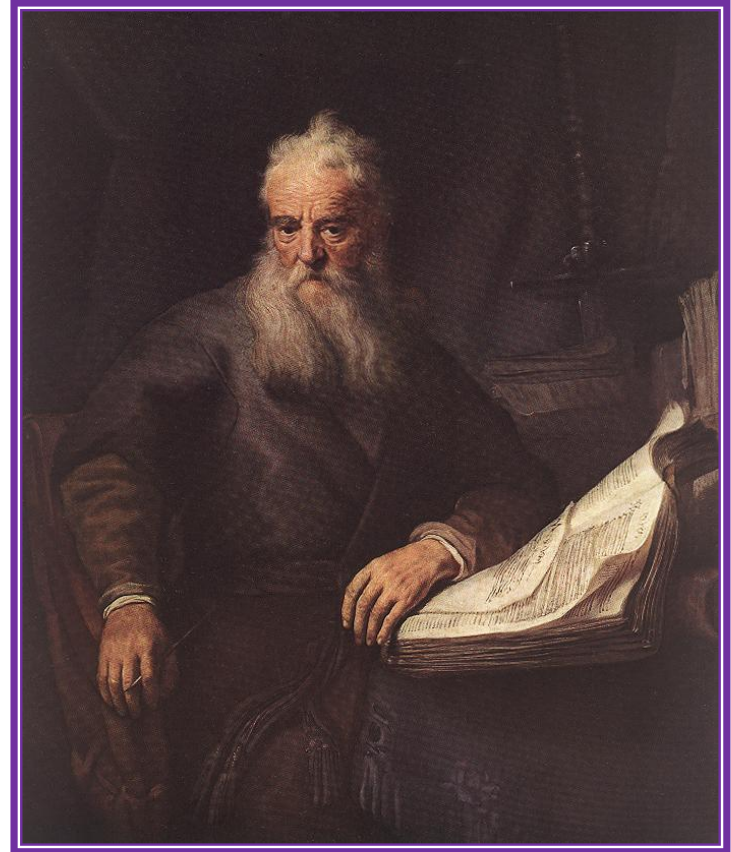
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Historical Context - Paul the Apostle

Who was the Author of Ephesians?

- Paul the Apostle (AD 5- AD 67)
 - Roman Name: Paul
 - Jewish Name: Saul of Tarsus
 - Tarsus capital city in Cilicia province (south-central Turkey)
 - Died in Rome
 - Not one of the 12 apostles
 - In the mid-30s to the mid-50s
 - Founded 7 churches in Asia Minor and Europe
 - Held Jewish & Roman citizenship



Apostle Paul
Rembrandt (1635)

Historical Context - Paul the Apostle

Who was the Author of Ephesians?

- Paul the Apostle (AD 5- AD 67)
 - Approx. ½ of the Book of Acts describes Paul's life and work
 - Authored 13-14 of 27 NT books
 - Can you name them?



Saint Paul
Bartolomeo Montagna
(1482)

Historical Context - Paul the Apostle

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Romans	Philippians	2 Timothy
1 Corinthians	Colossians	Titus
2 Corinthians	1 Thessalonians	Hebrews
Galatians	2 Thessalonians	Philemon
Ephesians	1 Timothy	unknown



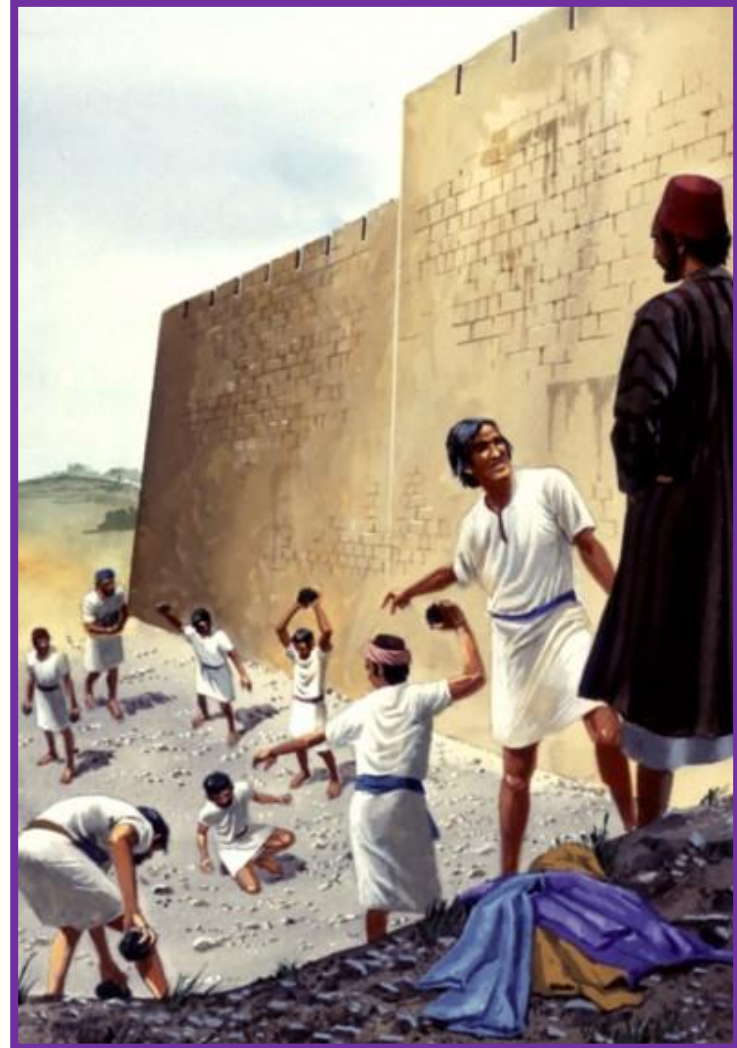
Saint Paul
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Historical Context - Paul the Apostle

Who was the Author of Ephesians?

- Paul the Apostle (AD 5- AD 67)
 - Pharisee
 - Persecuted the early church.

³“I am indeed a Jew, born in Tarsus of Cilicia, but brought up in this city at the feet of Gamaliel, taught according to the strictness of our fathers’ law, and was zealous toward God as you all are today. ⁴I persecuted this Way to the death, binding and delivering into prisons both men and women, ⁵as also the high priest bears me witness, and all the council of the elders, from whom I also received letters to the brethren, and went to Damascus to bring in chains even those who were there to Jerusalem to be punished. --- Acts 22:3-5 ... NKJV



Historical Context - Paul the Apostle

Paul's Conversion

- Journeying to Damascus at noon
- Paul is knocked off his high horse
 - *Literally* - By a bright light
 - Jesus confronts him

⁶ "Now it happened, as I journeyed and came near Damascus at about noon, suddenly a great light from heaven shone around me. ⁷ And I fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to me, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?' ⁸ So I answered, 'Who are You, Lord?' And He said to me, 'I am Jesus of Nazareth, whom you are persecuting.' --- Acts 22:6-8

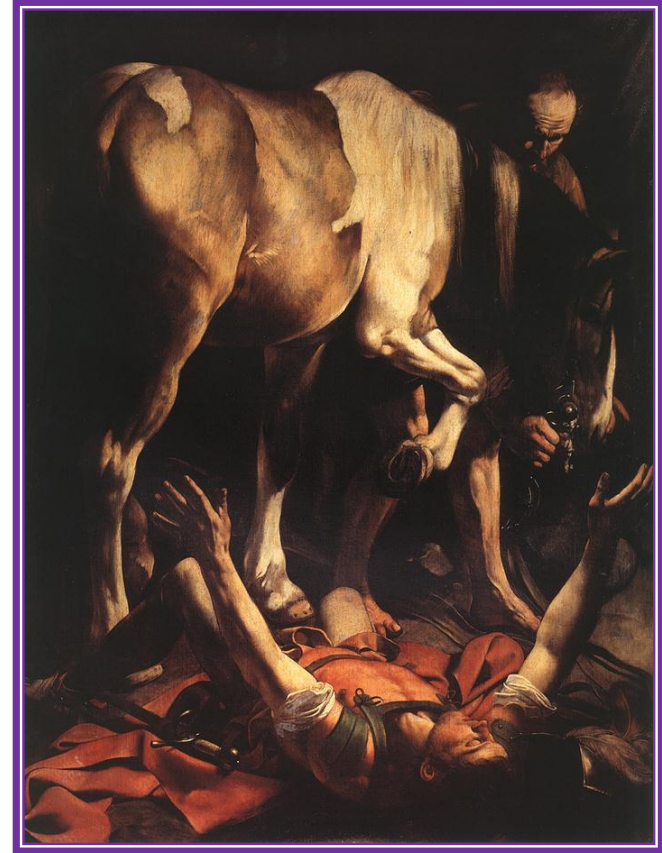
Study the rest of the story in Acts 22:9-21.



Historical Context - Paul the Apostle

Paul's Conversion

- Paul became a Christian, and he was eventually baptized.
- Paul went on three separate missionary journeys throughout the Roman Empire.



The Conversion on the Way to Damascus
Caravaggio (1600)

Paul's First Missionary Journey



Paul's Second Missionary Journey



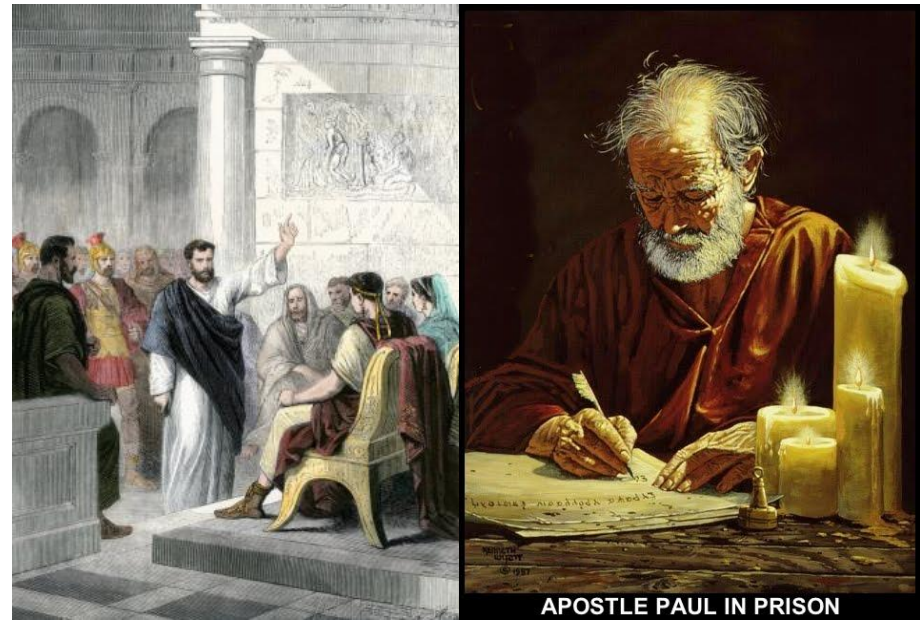
Paul's Third Missionary Journey



Paul's Journey to Rome

- After his third missionary journey, Paul was arrested in the Temple in Jerusalem and was brought before the Sanhedrin who had him sent to Caesarea.
- Over the next two years Paul was brought before the governor Felix, the governor Festus, and King Agrippa II.
- After appealing to the emperor, Agrippa had Paul sent to Rome.

• Acts 25



Paul's Journey to Rome



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Historical Context - City of Ephesus

- Paul Preaching in Ephesus



Historical Context - City of Ephesus

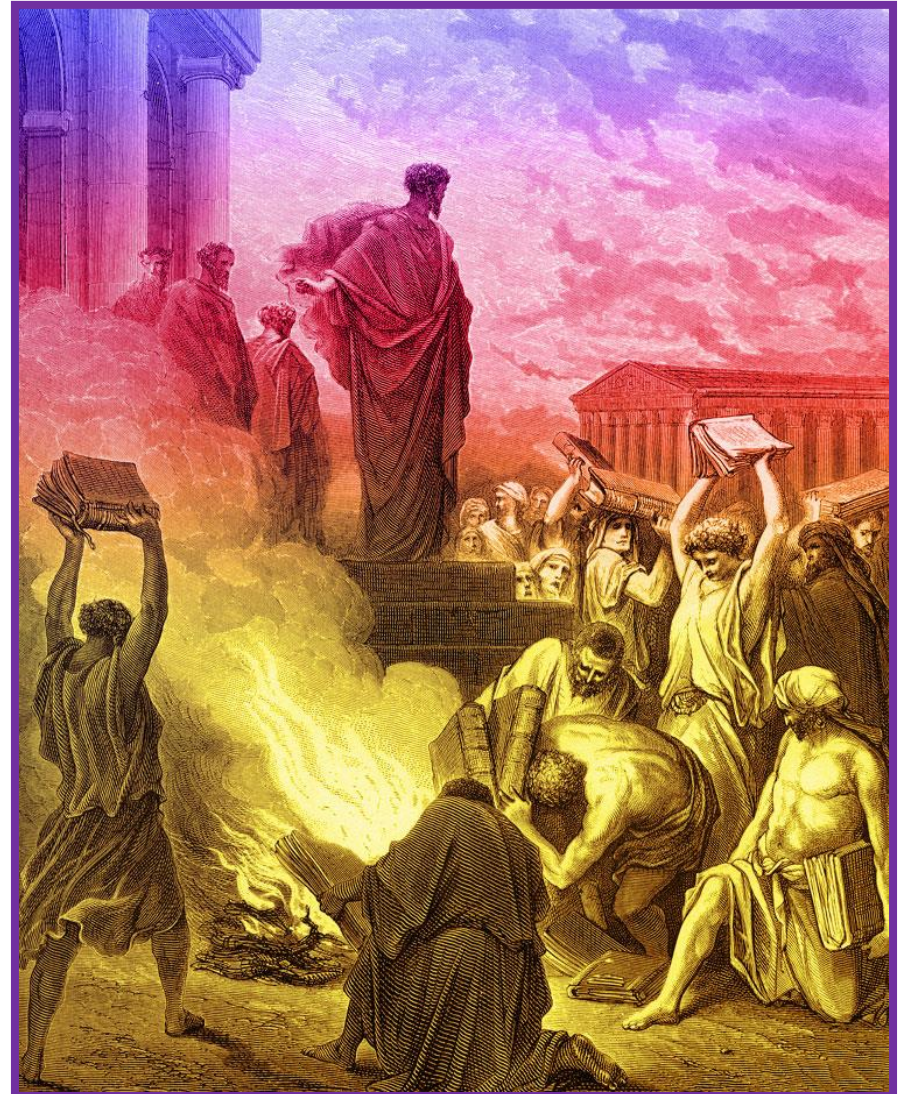
- Ephesus was the center of worship for the goddess Diana (Artemis).
- A large, famous temple was built for Diana and dedicated to her.



**A statue of Diana
(Artemis)**

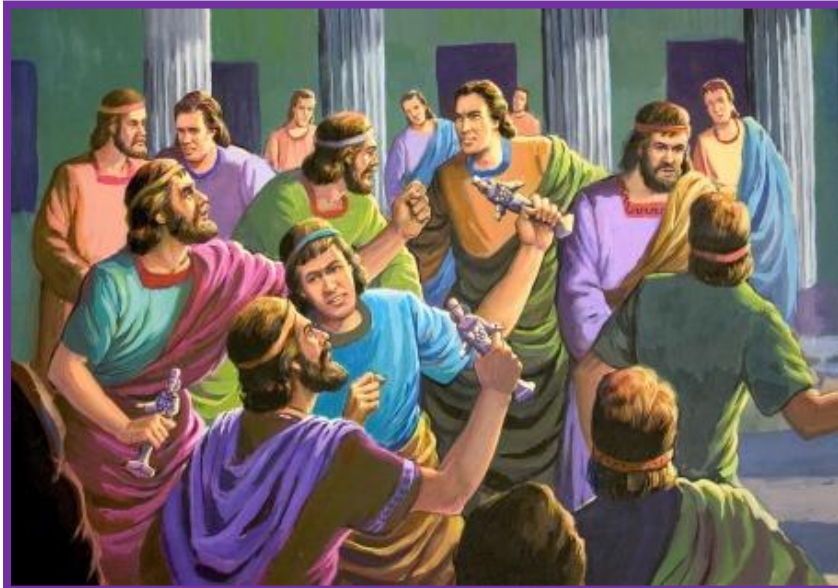
Historical Context - City of Ephesus

- The area was a major port city of the Roman Empire.
- Businesses made money by selling silver idols and souvenirs to visitors.
- When Paul went there to preach about Jesus, people listened, and many became Christians.
- Some sorcerers who turned to Jesus came together and burned their magic books (worth 50,000 pieces of silver).
- Local silversmiths began to worry that too many people would become Christians, which would hurt their business.



Historical Context - City of Ephesus

- The silversmiths and merchants started a riot against Paul and his coworkers.
- The silversmiths demanded a hearing in the theater. The city clerk put down the riot, and a church started in Ephesus (Acts 19:17-41).



Theater at Ephesus

Silversmiths

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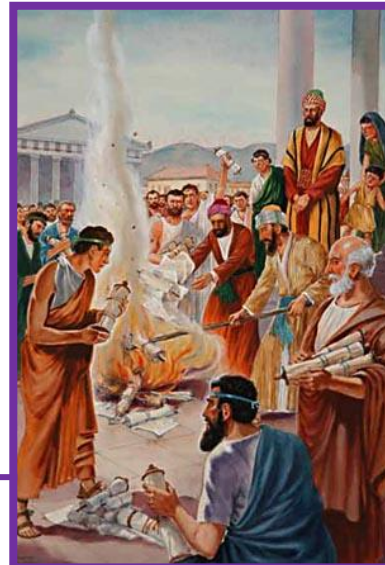
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Spiritual Warfare - Goddess Worship

- During Paul's time in Ephesus he is engaged in Spiritual Warfare.
 - Ephesians 6:10-18 is not an academic thesis
 - He is engaged in the battle (Acts 19).
- Paul experienced victory
 - Performed many "unusual" miracles (Acts 19:11)
 - His actions were viewed as a direct threat to the goddess Diana - which fueled the local economy
 - Evil spirit recognized Paul, Jesus
 - Not the Sceva brothers
 - Itinerant Jewish exorcists
 - Attacks the brothers
 - Incident known to all in Ephesus
 - Fear fell on them
 - Jesus was magnified.
 - Many who practiced magic
 - Publically burned their books



Spiritual Warfare - Goddess Worship - Some History

- Greeks and Romans had a pantheon of masculine gods (*fallen angels*)
- In addition there were the male demigods (*offspring of fallen angels*)
 - Titans - Nephilim ... *Offspring of the fallen angels* ... *demons*

Greek	Roman	Role
Zeus	Jupiter	Chief god - sky and air
Apollon	Apollo	God of poetry, music, Sun
Ares	Mars	God of war
Hephaistos	Vulcan	God of blacksmiths
Hermes	Mercury	Messenger of the gods
Poseidon	Neptune	God of the sea
Pluto	Hades	God of the underworld

Spiritual Warfare - Goddess Worship - Some History

- Greeks and Romans had a pantheon of feminine goddesses

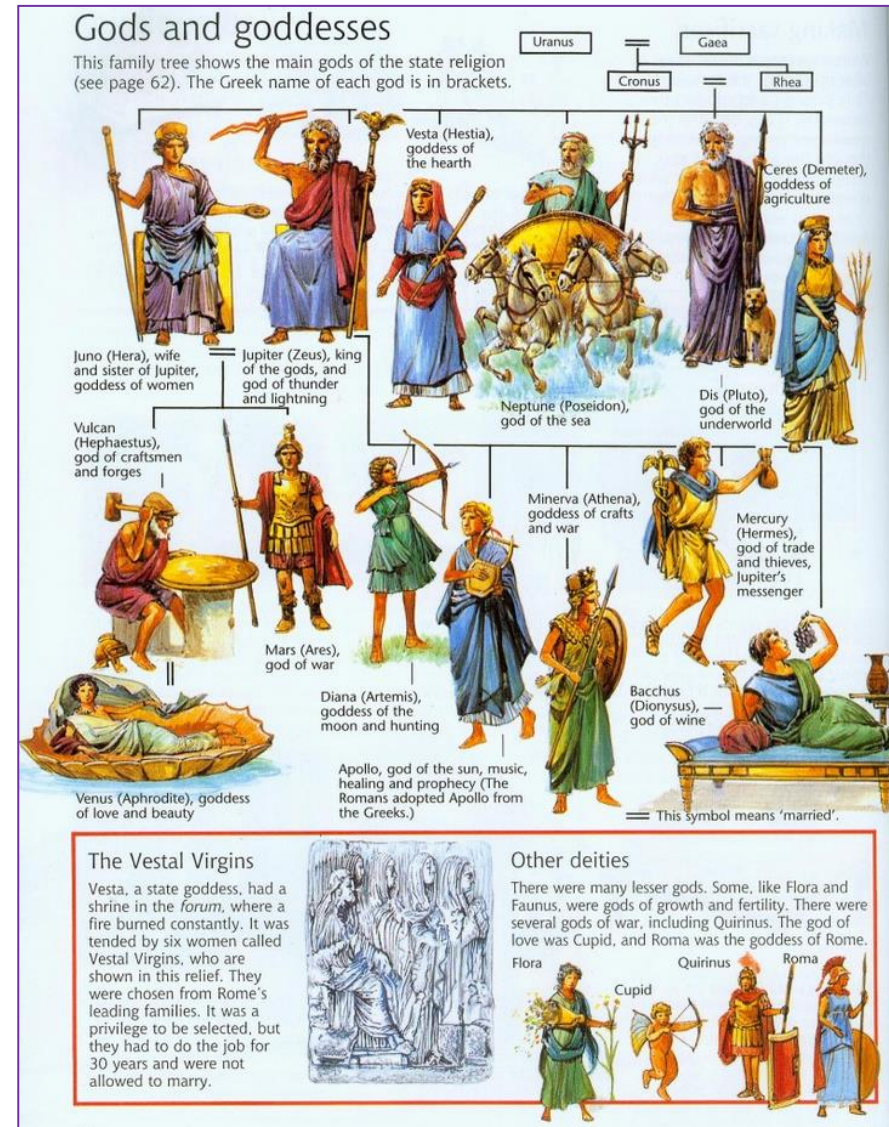
Greek	Roman	Role
Hera	Juno	Chief goddess - marriage
Aphrodite	Venus	Goddess of beauty
Artemis	Diana	Goddess of fertility
Athena	Minerva	Goddess of wisdom
Demeter	Ceres	Goddess of the harvest, nature
Hestia	Vesta	Goddess of the hearth

Ishtar	Babylon and Assyria
Isis	Egyptians
Greek	Artemis
Roman	Diana

Same goddess
Different cultures
Different times

Spiritual Warfare - Goddess Worship - Some History

- The Greeks and Romans did not worship their male (*demi*) gods directly, they built local temples for their celestial mates.
- These woman became the local patron deities.
- In the days of the Apostles, Diana was the most important.
- A couple of interesting goddesses
 - Roman Minerva [Greek Athena]
 - Roman Juno [Greek Hera]



Spiritual Warfare - Goddess Diana (Artemis)

- Diana, was the goddess of the hunt, the moon, fertility and being associated with wild animals, and having the ability to talk to and control animals.
- Dianic Wicca, a largely feminist form of the practice, is named for her.
- Diana was know to be the virgin goddess of childbirth and women.
- Diana was one of the 3 maiden goddesses, Diana Minerva and Vesta, who swore never to marry.
- Her twin brother was Apollo.



Spiritual Warfare - Goddess Minerva (Athena)

- The Romans worshipped Minerva, civic goddess of protection, who would bring great leadership and intelligence to the community.
 - She is the goddess who assures that the citizens of a community retain their liberty.
 - She is also known as a wisdom goddess - note the owl.
- Does this goddess look familiar?



Spiritual Warfare - Goddess Minerva (Athena)

- She stands atop our Capitol building in Washington D.C.



Spiritual Warfare - Goddess Juno (Hera)

- The Roman goddess Juno is another “*wisdom*” goddess.
- Juno is associated with money and banking. Her temple-banks were the foundation of what would become a global banking complex.
- She was thought to bring warning to a community, if evil were to attack.
- On Rome’s Capitoline Hill, a temple to Juno commemorated her protective powers. Called Juno Moneta, from the Latin *moneo*, “to warn,” her name was gradually modified into our word for, “money”.



Juno
Queen of the Gods
Goddess of Marriage and Childbirth



Juno Sospita, a plaster cast based on an original in the Vatican Museums

Other names	Regina (“Queen”)
Consort	Jupiter
Parents	Saturn
Siblings	Jupiter
Children	Mars and Vulcan
Greek equivalent	Hera



Prepare for Battle:

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Next Week's Lesson

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