

[21] And as these things were fulfilled, passing through the Macedonia and Achaia, the Paul set in the spirit to go unto Jerusalem, saying that, “After I have been there, I must also see Rome.” [22] And he sent unto the Macedonia two of those serving him, Timothy and Erastus.¹ He himself stayed a time in the Asia. [23] And during that time there was no small commotion concerning the way.

[24] For a certain one named Demetrius,² a silversmith, making silver temples³ of Artemis,⁴ supplied to the craftsmen no small profit, [25] whom, having brought together, and those workers of such things, he said, “Men, you understand that our prosperity is from this business. [26] And you see and hear that not only Ephesus, but nearly all the Asia, this Paul has persuaded, has turned away a considerable crowd, saying that, ‘Those made by hands are not Gods.’⁵ [27] So, not only is this trade of ours in danger of coming into disrepute, but also the temple of the great Goddess⁶ Artemis to account for nothing and also her magnificence is about to be pulled down, who the whole Asia and the inhabited world worship!”

[28] And hearing and becoming full of wrath, they cried out saying, “Great is the Artemis of Ephesians!” [29] And the whole city was filled with confusion, and with one accord they rushed into the theater seizing Gaius⁷ and Aristarchus,⁸ Macedonians, Paul’s travel companions. [30] And the Paul wanting to go into the populace, the disciples were not allowing him. [31] And also some of the officials of Asia, being his friends, sending to him, pleaded not to give himself into the theater. [32] Some indeed, therefore, were crying out one thing, another something else, for the assembly⁹ was confused; and the majority did not know for what they had come together. [33] And out of the crowd they drew Alexander, the Jews putting him forward. And the Alexander, motioning with the hand, desired to defend himself to the populace. [34] But, recognizing that he is a Jew, one voice was out of all for about two hours crying out, “Great is the Artemis of Ephesians!”

[35] And the scribe¹⁰ quieting the crowd says, “Men, Ephesians, what man is there that does not know the city of Ephesus is temple guardian of the great Goddess Artemis and of which fell from Zeus?¹¹ [36] Therefore, these things being undeniable, it is necessary for you to be quiet and do nothing rash.¹² [37] For you brought these men, who are neither robbers of temples¹³ nor blasphemers¹⁴ of your

1 Ἐραστον (Eraston) “Erastus” - found also in Romans 16:23; 2 Timothy 4:20

2 Δημήτριος (Dēmētrios) “Demetrius” - found also in Acts 19:38; 3 John 1:12

3 ναοὺς (naous) “temples” DARBY, DRA, GNV; “shrines” NKJV, KJV, NAS – translated elsewhere as temples (e.g. Acts 7:48; 17:24) or temple (e.g. Acts 5:20-21, 24-25).

4 Ἀρτέμιδος (Artemidos) “Artemis” (Greek name) NAS, Green, YLT; “Diana” (Roman name) NKJV, KJV – found also in Acts 19:27-28, 34-35.

5 θεοὶ (theoi) “Gods” GNV, RGT; “gods” NKJV, etc. - The speaker is coming from the perspective that they are truly Gods. So, a capital “Gods” fits the context rather than a lower case “gods,” which is usually used for false Gods. See likewise Acts 14:11. See also John 10:34.

Paul indeed declared that they are not Gods. See Acts 14:15; 17:24, 29; 1 Corinthians 8:1.

6 θεᾶς (theas) “Goddess” - NKJV, etc. “goddess” - the speaker speaks from the perspective that she is real.

7 Γάϊον (Gaion) “Gaius” - found also in Acts 20:4; Romans 16:23; 1 Corinthians 1:14; 3 John 1:1.

8 Ἀρίσταρχον (Aristarchon) “Aristarchus” - found also in Acts 20:4; 27:2; Colossians 4:10; Philemon 1:24.

9 ἐκκλησία (ekklēsia) “assembly” - This is the same word elsewhere typically translated “church” (e.g. NKJV, etc.) e.g. Matthew 16:18; 18:17; Acts 5:11; etc..

10 γραμματεὺς (grammateus) “scribe” WYC; “city clerk” NKJV; “town clerk” NAS; “public clerk” YLT – this is the same word for “scribe” elsewhere in the NT, except here context may indicate some kind of secretary of the area.

11 Διοπετοῦς (Diope tous) “fell from Zeus” - NKJV, YLT “fell down from Zeus”; KJV “fell down from Jupiter”; NAS “fell down from heaven” - compound word, Διο (Dio) = Zeus (Διὸς) + πετοῦς (petous) = “fell” (from πίπτω). See footnote for Acts 14:12 & 19:36.

God.¹⁵ [38] If indeed therefore, Demetrius, and those craftsmen with him, have a matter against someone, courts are being held, and there are proconsuls. Let them bring charges against one another. [39] But if you seek something about other things, it shall be settled in the lawful assembly. [40] For we are in danger of being accused of a riot for today, being no cause about which we are able to give a reason for this disorderly gathering.” [41] And saying these things, he dismissed the assembly.

12 προπετές (propetes) “rash” NAS, Green; “rashly” NKJV, KJV, YLT – compound word as in verse 35, προ (forward) + πετές (fall, from πίπτω) i.e. fall forward. Found also in 2 Timothy 3:4 (“headstrong” NKJV; “reckless” NAS).

13 ιεροσύλους (herosulous) “robbers of temples” NKJV, NAS; “robbers of churches” KJV – first part of the word is “temple,” ιερο (hero) e.g. Acts 19:27. ιεροσύλους is only found here.

14 βλασφημοῦντας (Blasphêmountas) “blasphemers” - See Acts 14:15; 17:24, 29; 1 Corinthians 8:1.

15 θεόν (theon) MT & CT “God” NLV; θεάν (thean) RT “goddess” NKJV, KJV, NAS, YLT, Green, etc.