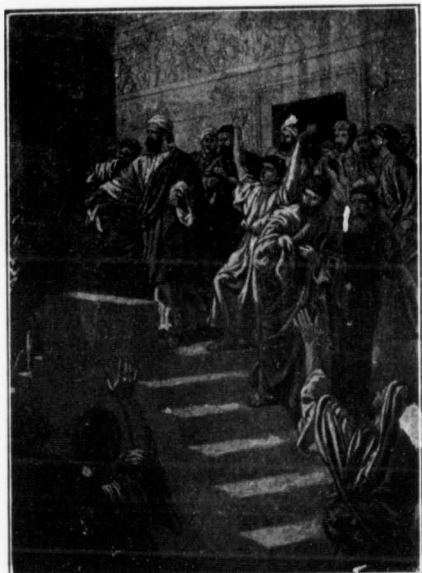


Lesson VIII.

THE RIOT AT EPHESUS

August 20, 1916

Acts 19 : 29-41. Study Acts 19 : 23-41. *Scripture Memory Verse, Luke 10 : 36.

Golden Text—The love of money is a root of all kinds of evil.—1 Timothy 6 : 10 (Rev. Ver.).

COPYRIGHTED BY PROVIDENCE LITHOGRAPH CO.

29 And the whole city was filled with confusion : and having caught Gai'us and Aristar'chus, men of Macedo'nia, Paul's companions in travel, they rushed with one accord into the theatre.

30 And when Paul would have entered in unto the people, the disciples suffered him not.

31 And certain of the chief of A'sia, which were his friends, sent unto him, desiring him that he would not adventure himself into the theatre.

32 Some therefore cried one thing, and some another : for the assembly was confused : and the more part knew not wherefore they were come together.

33 And they drew Alexan'der out of the multitude, the Jews putting him forward. And Alexan'der beckoned with the hand, and would have made his defence unto the people.

34 But when they knew that he was a Jew, all with one voice about the space of two hours cried out, Great is Dian'a of the Eph'e'sians.

35 And when the town-lerk had appeased the people, he said, Ye men of Eph'esus, what man is there that knoweth not how that the city of the Eph'e'sians is a worshipper of the great goddess Dian'a, and of the image which fell down from Ju'piter ?

36 Seeing then that these things cannot be spoken against, ye ought to be quiet, and to do nothing rashly.

37 For ye have brought hither these men, which are neither robbers of churches, nor yet blasphemers of your goddess.

38 Wherefore if Deme'trius, and the craftsmen which are with him, have a matter against any man, the law is open, and there are deputies : let them implead one another.

39 But if ye inquire any thing concerning other matters, it shall be determined in a lawful assembly.

40 For we are in danger to be called in question for this day's uproar, there being no cause whereby we may give an account of this con-course.

41 And when he had thus spoken, he dismissed the assembly.

THE LESSON RETOLD

Such a noise ! such shouting ! such crowds of people ! It seemed as if everybody in Ephesus were running to the big theatre where all their meetings were held.

Ephesus was a heathen city, and the people who lived there thought that a great goddess named Diana took care of them, and they must build temples for her, and make images of her, and pray to these images, or else Diana would turn against them and do them harm. So they made a big image of Diana and built a beautiful temple for it in the centre of the city, and they had hundreds of smaller images in the streets and in their homes. If you had walked through the streets you might have seen crowds praying before these idols, and many people came from other places to pray in the great temple of Diana. You might have seen men selling images made of

copper or silver. Many of the visitors bought them to take home with them. The men who made them, got a great deal of money.

But now there is trouble ! A stranger had come to Ephesus and he was telling the people that it was wrong to pray to images. The makers of images became very angry at this man. "He will spoil all our trade if the people believe what he says !" they said. How selfish these makers of images were ! All that they cared for was that they should make money for themselves. This was the reason why they were angry when the people were told that they should stop worshiping images and worship only the living and true God.

Now you may have guessed who the stranger was ! Yes, the stranger was Paul, the

* For correct recitation of the Scripture Memory Passages of the three Parts of List II., at one sitting for each Part, a Certificate in Colors is given. For Form of Application, apply to Rev. J. C. Robertson, our General Secretary for Sabbath Schools, Confederation Life Building, Toronto.