

A Great Door

As Paul discusses his travel itinerary at the end of his 1st epistle to his Corinthian brethren, he says something interesting in **Verses 8 and 9** of the **16th Chapter**. I will tarry at Ephesus until Pentecost. **9 For a great door and effectual is opened unto me, and there are many adversaries.** The phrase a great door and effectual is opened unto me, is the phrase I would like to focus on for just a few moments. Many times we neglect the Work of the Lord, because we feel as though no one will respond, largely due to the fact that we put the emphasizes on ourselves rather than the foresight of God and His Word. We can read of the tarrying the Apostle Paul speaks of in Ephesus in **Acts the 19th Chapter**. As we read the 1st **20 verses** of this chapter we can notice some of the effective results accomplished from this opened door in Ephesus. **Verse 5** 12 disciples were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus, **verse 6** 12 disciples receive the Holy Ghost, prophesy, and speak in tongues, **verse 8** things concerning the Kingdom of God are taught, **verse 10** all that dwelt in Asia both Jew and Greek heard God's Word, **verse 12** Diseases were healed and evil spirits were driven out, **verse 17** The name of the Lord was magnified, **verse 18** Many believed and confessed, showing there deeds, **verse 19**, Magic books worth 50,000 pieces of silver are burnt, and **verse 20** The Word of God grew mightily and prevailed. As Paul makes mention of this door, he also speaks of many adversaries that he would face in this same area. The greatest adversary he face in this city would be the worship of the great goddess Diana. Many followed the belief of this goddess. Had Paul chose not to walk through the door which the Lord had opened in Ephesus, how many of those who obeyed the Gospel, would have been swayed by the vain worship of this goddess. As we make some personal application, the Lord has opened a great and effectual door in our lives and there are many adversaries. If we chose not to walk through that door, how many would be Christians will there be, that will be swayed by the adversary.

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