

Jesus transforms lives #12

**“Ephesus: Liberated from the  
tyranny of idols”**

**Acts 19: 8-41**

St Annes Ryde  
ANGLICAN CHURCH



Sue Willis  
26/4/09

The stuff of legends!

7 Wonders of the Ancient World

## 1. Ephesus

- Historic
- Economic
- Religious

## 2. Liberated

Paul preaches, teaches and makes tents

- boldly in the synagogue v8
- persuasively about the kingdom of God v8
- daily discussions for two years v10
- All the Jews & Greeks in province of Asia heard v10
- extraordinary miracles v 11
- the name of the Lord Jesus in high honour v17

## 3. Tyranny

The transformation upset the silversmiths

Demetrius v25 – good income

- large numbers of people turned from idols
- Paul says 'man made gods no gods at all'

Therefore:

- our trade loses good name
- temple of Artemis loses its name
- goddess robbed of divinity
- RIOT – v28ff

- a city in uproar rushes to the theatre
- v32 the 'mob' in confusion
- city clerk brings order

**v37 Those of the Way neither robbed temples  
nor spoke against Artemis**

## 4. Ephesus II

Paul departs after the uproar 20:1

Revelation 2:1-7 – lamp stand to be removed

Paul prays that “the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is like the working of his mighty strength, which he extended in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right in the heavenly realms, far above all rule a authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come.”  
Ephesians 1:18-22