

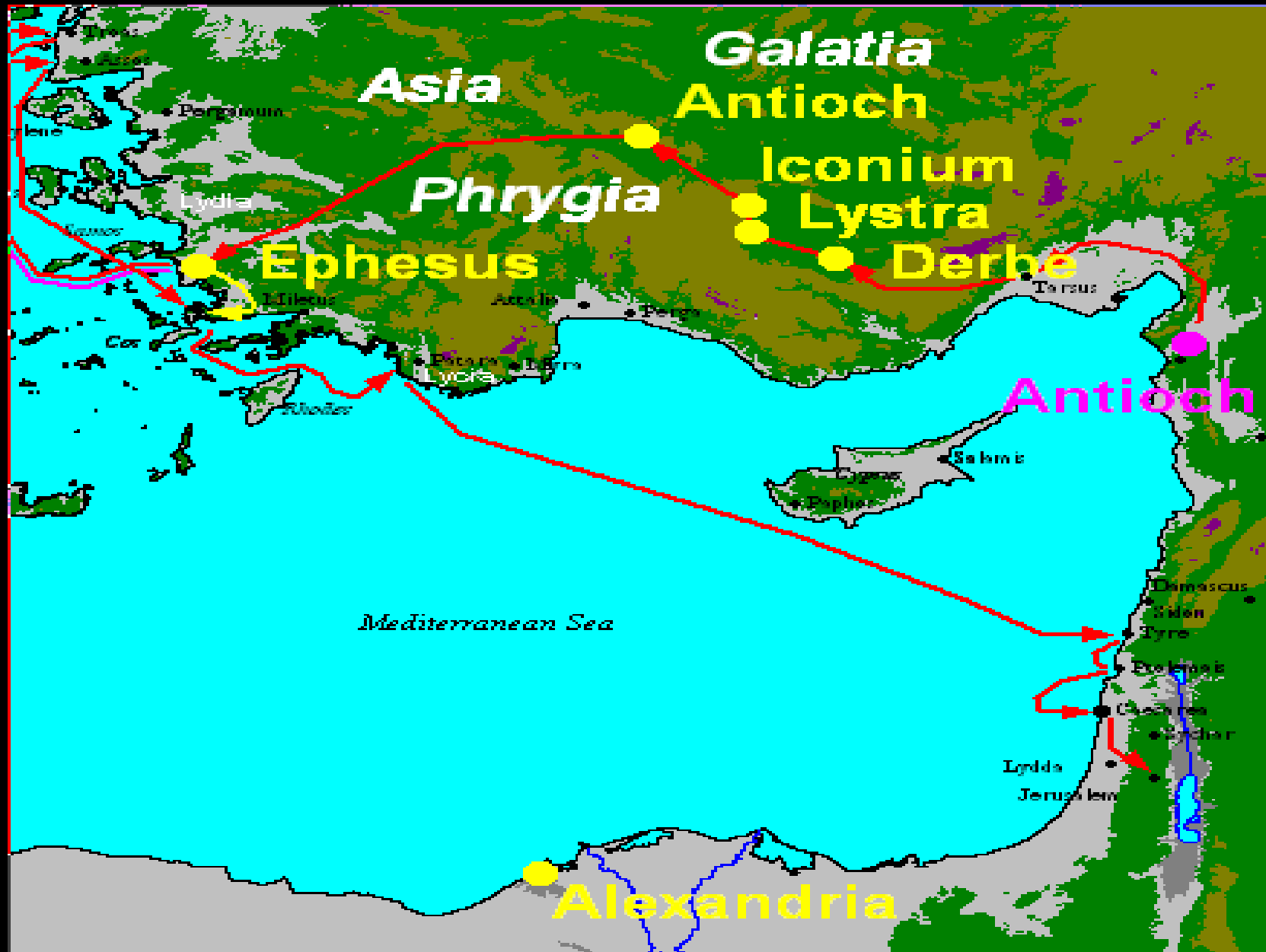
# Round the World in 80 days

*Studies in Acts 17-20*

*Ephesus:*

*A Titanic Clash of Cultures*

*Acts 19.23-41*



**Paul's Third Missionary Journey**



**The Temple to Artemis (Diana) at Ephesus**



**The Amphitheatre at Ephesus**

# **Round the World in 80 days**

*Studies in Acts 17-20*

*Ephesus:*

*A Titanic Clash of Cultures*

*Acts 19.23-41*

*Culture – how we do things around here*

# **1. What Paul was Preaching: The Way, v23**

## **a) The Way to God – the only way John 14.6**

**our human problem: sin - doing our own thing  
alienation from God, condemnation by God  
- no human solution possible Rom 3.10,23**

**God's solution: Jesus**

**- the perfect God-man John 8.29**

**- the only acceptable sacrifice**

**Mat 27.46; John 19.30; Rom 4.25**

**- the only way back to God 1 Peter 3.18**

# **1. What Paul was Preaching: *The Way*, v23**

## ***b) The Only Way to Live***

***for Jesus, as our king,***

***with him calling all the shots***

***1 Peter 3.15***

***by the power of his indwelling Spirit***

## ***c) The Only Way to Change***

***decisive repentance, real commitment***

***turn from every idol 1 Thess 1.9-10;***

***to serve the living God***

***Acts 17.29-31***

## 2. Why this Caused such an Uproar, v23-34

a) *it seriously undermined the local economy*  
*an appeal to the pocket vs 24-26*

*God doesn't live in buildings 17.24*

b) *it challenged people's cherished beliefs v27*  
*the foundation on which they built their lives*  
*today, the Gospel challenges*

*- the cult of self-determination*

*- the cult of personal choice*

*- the cult of subjectivism*

*- the cult of materialism*

*- the cult of personality*

*- the cult of superficiality*

### **3. Why We Should Pray for Town Clerks, vs30-41**

*Paul's call to Timothy 1 Tim 2.1-6;*

*a) the crowd's confusion vs 32-34*

*- many didn't know what was going on*

*b) Paul's courage, his friends' wisdom vs 30-31*

*- an unsafe environment*

*- an hysterical shouting match,  
so no place for the Gospel*

*a) The clerk's coolness vs 35-41*

*- no riots, please vs 40-41*

*- the city's unique place in history vs 35-36*

*- no crime had been committed v37*

*- disputes are for courts, not mobs vs 38-39*

*rulers are God's servants for our good Rom 13.1-4*