

GLEANINGS

Article GE- 91

PAUL'S PROBLEM WITH A GODDESS

Artemis (called Diana by the Romans) was a fertility goddess. If you examine the statue of Artemis you will see that on her head is a turret, symbolizing that she was the goddess of fortresses that we referred to in our last article (The God Of Strongholds). If you do not have a copy, you may obtain one from the paper office or on the World Wide Web at www.bayourouge.net.

The Old Testament teaches us that the worship of the male god Baal often included the worship of a female god. She was worshiped as “the queen of heaven, mother of god”. They taught that she had given birth to their messiah and then later returned to their heaven. She was worshiped as part of their trinity, god the father, god the son and the queen of heaven, mother of their messiah. Their queen of heaven was not only given the attributes of being the mother of their messiah but also the mother of all mankind. As such, she was symbolized as a woman with a multitude of breasts just as the statue of Artemis portrays.

“²⁴For a certain man named Demetrius, a silversmith, who made silver shrines of Diana, brought no small profit to the craftsmen. ²⁵He called them together with the workers of similar occupation, and said: “Men, you know that we have our prosperity by this trade. ²⁶Moreover you see and hear that not only at Ephesus, but throughout almost all Asia, this Paul has persuaded and turned away many people, saying that they are not gods which are made with hands. ²⁷So not only is this trade of ours in danger of falling into disrepute, but also the temple of the great goddess Diana may be despised and her magnificence destroyed, whom all Asia and the world worship. ²⁸Now when they heard this, they were full of wrath and cried out, saying, “Great is Diana of the Ephesians!” Acts 19:24-27 The New King James

The apostle Paul and his companions experienced what it was like when you try to share the truth about the queen of heaven.