



# CHURCH

CLARITY | 2020



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QUESTION

**Is the Bible real?**

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QUESTION

**Can God's Word make a difference  
in my life?**

# The Riot at Ephesus

ACTS 19:23-41



While Apollos was at Corinth, Paul took the road through the interior and arrived at **Ephesus**. There he found some disciples

**Acts 19:1** NIV

Paul entered the synagogue and spoke boldly there for three months, arguing persuasively about the kingdom of God. <sup>9</sup> But some of them became obstinate; they refused to believe and publicly maligned the Way. So Paul left them. He took the disciples with him and had discussions daily in the lecture hall of Tyrannus. <sup>10</sup> This went on for two years, so that all the Jews and Greeks who lived in the province of Asia heard the word of the Lord.

**Acts 19:8-10** NIV

About that time there arose a great disturbance about the Way. <sup>24</sup> A silversmith named Demetrius, who made silver shrines of Artemis, brought in a lot of business for the craftsmen there.

**Acts 19:23-24 NIV**



He called them together, along with the workers in related trades, and said: “You know, my friends, that we receive a good income from this business.<sup>26</sup> And you see and hear how this fellow Paul has convinced and led astray large numbers of people here in Ephesus and in practically the whole province of Asia. He says that gods made by human hands are no gods at all.”

**Acts 19:25-26** NIV



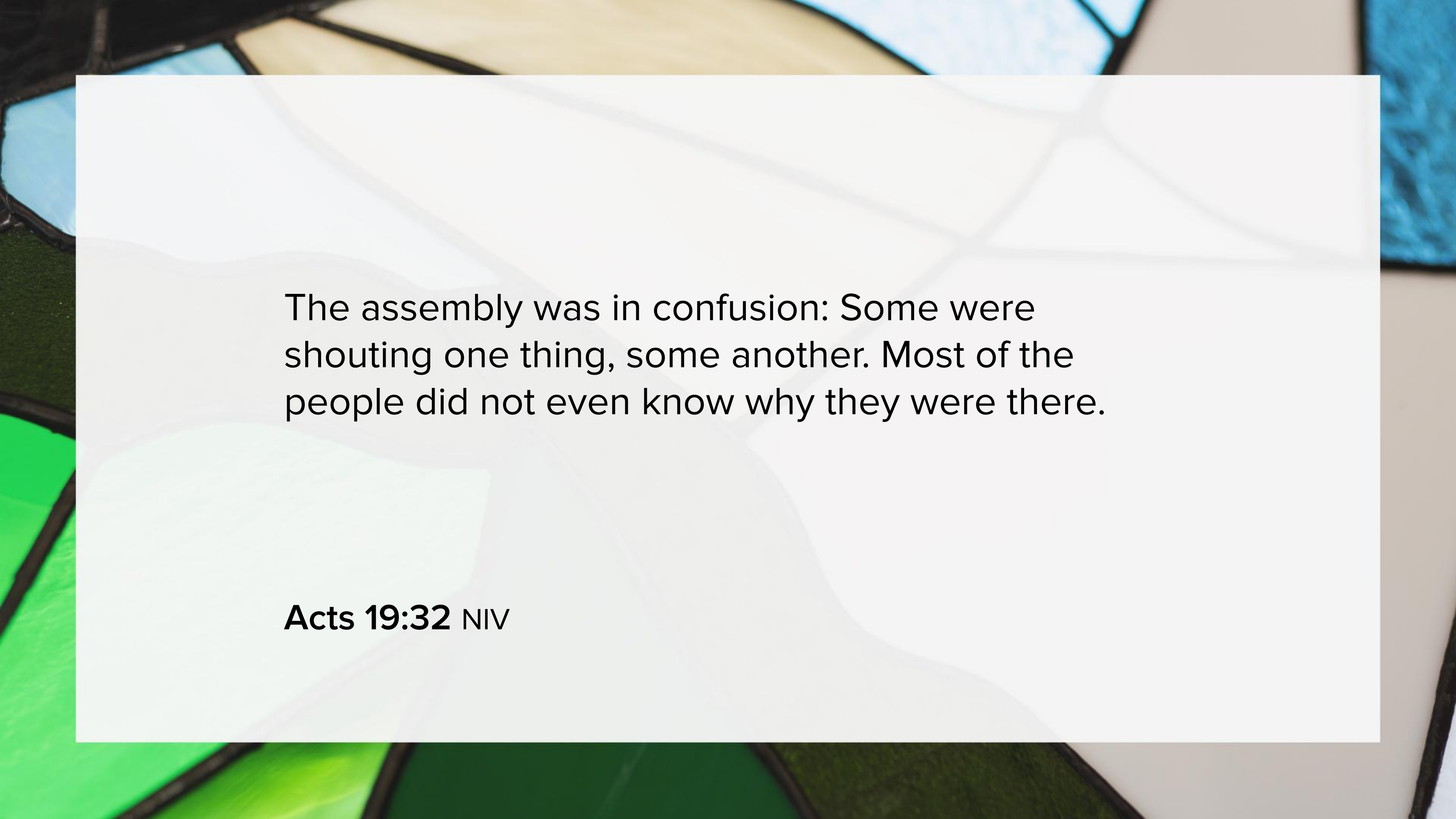
“There is danger not only that our trade will lose its good name, but also that the temple of the great goddess Artemis will be discredited; and the goddess herself, who is worshiped throughout the province of Asia and the world, will be robbed of her divine majesty.”

**Acts 19:27** NIV

When they heard this, they were furious and began shouting: “Great is Artemis of the Ephesians!”  
<sup>29</sup> Soon the whole city was in an uproar. The people seized Gaius and Aristarchus, Paul’s traveling companions from Macedonia, and all of them rushed into the theater together.

**Acts 19:28-29** NIV



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The assembly was in confusion: Some were shouting one thing, some another. Most of the people did not even know why they were there.

**Acts 19:32** NIV

The Jews in the crowd pushed Alexander to the front, and they shouted instructions to him. He motioned for silence in order to make a defense before the people. <sup>34</sup> But when they realized he was a Jew, they all shouted in unison for about two hours: “Great is Artemis of the Ephesians!”

**Acts 19:33-34 NIV**



The city clerk quieted the crowd and said: “Fellow Ephesians, doesn’t all the world know that the city of Ephesus is the guardian of the temple of the great Artemis and of her image, which fell from heaven?  
<sup>36</sup> Therefore, since these facts are undeniable, you ought to calm down and not do anything rash. <sup>37</sup> You have brought these men here, though they have neither robbed temples nor blasphemed our goddess.”

**Acts 19:35-37** NIV

“If, then, Demetrius and his fellow craftsmen have a grievance against anybody, the courts are open and there are proconsuls. They can press charges.  
<sup>39</sup> If there is anything further you want to bring up, it must be settled in a legal assembly.”

**Acts 19:38-39 NIV**



“As it is, we are in danger of being charged with rioting because of what happened today. In that case we would not be able to account for this commotion, since there is no reason for it.” <sup>41</sup> After he had said this, he dismissed the assembly.

**Acts 19:40-41 NIV**

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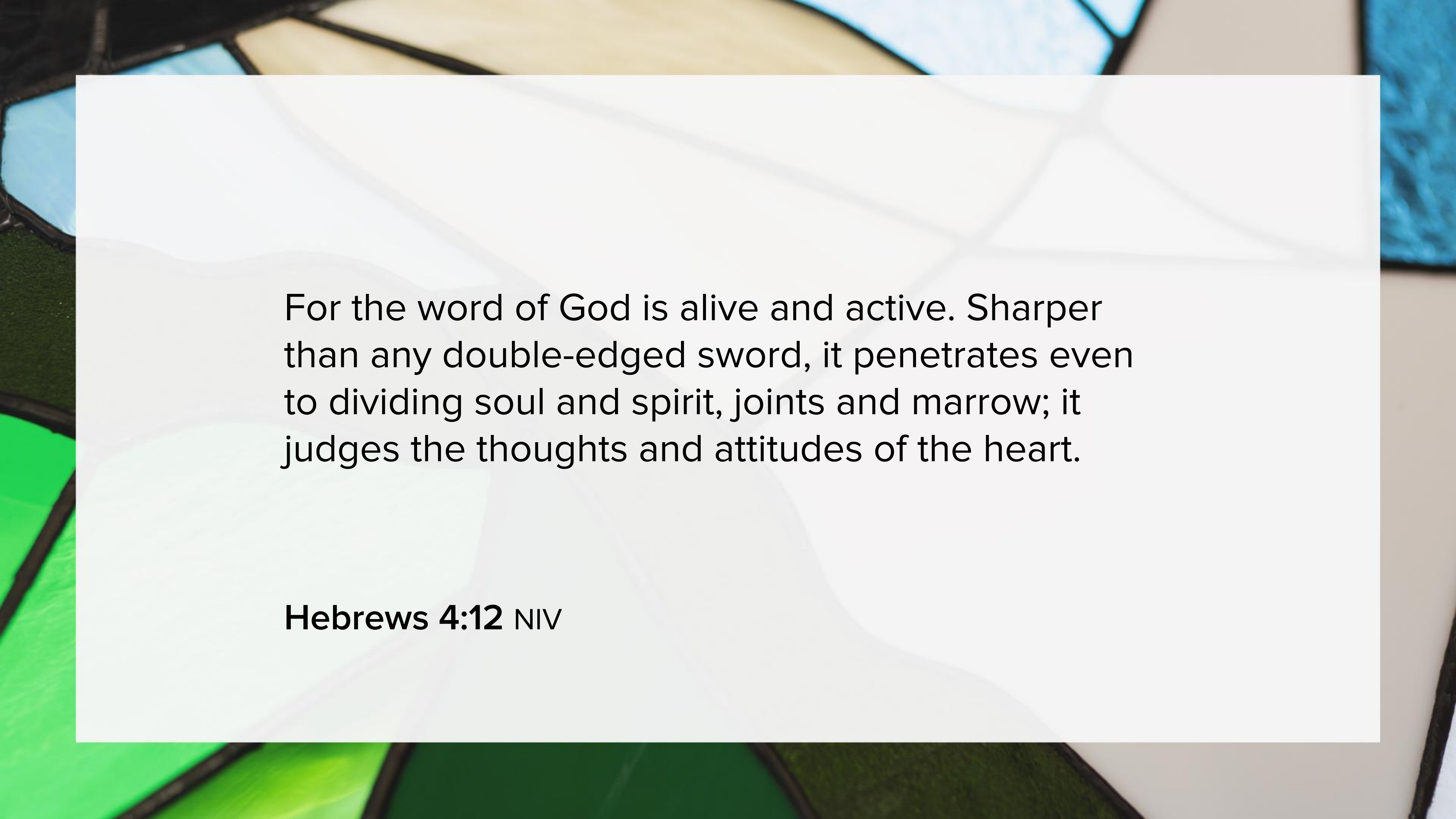
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**God's Word will produce both  
transformation and opposition.**



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For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

**Hebrews 4:12** NIV