

The Seven Sons of Sceva

1. The Great Commission has two parts:
 - a. Evangelism
 - b. Discipleship
2. This could be why Jesus sent disciples out by twos.
3. We all have strengths but still need each other.

The Seven Sons of Sceva Appear During a Revival

“Now God worked unusual (not the ordinary) miracles by the hands of Paul...” (Acts 19:11).

1. Things out of the ordinary happen during revival.
2. During the Azusa revival, the glory of God was visibly seen and children played hide and seek in the cloud.
3. Legs grew in the charismatic movement.

“...So that even handkerchiefs or aprons were brought from his body to the sick, and the diseases left them, and the evil spirits went out of them” (Acts 19:12).

1. Miracles occurred in Jesus’ ministry through cloth (Mark 5:30, Luke 6:19), sick came to Him.
2. This is special because Paul stayed in one place and people took the cloths to the sick.

“Then some of the itinerant (traveling) Jewish exorcists (“εξορτιζω”) took it upon themselves to call the name of the Lord Jesus over those who had evil spirits, saying, “We exorcise you by the Jesus whom Paul preaches” (Acts 19:13).

“Also there were seven sons of Sceva, a Jewish chief priest, who did so” (Acts 19:14).

1. These vagabond Jews traveled and cast out demons for money.
2. An exorcist is one who casts out demons with magic formulas and incantations.
3. An exorcist works in cooperation with Satan.
4. Believers are not exorcists but cast out (“εξορτιζω” – throw out) demons.
5. They apparently watched Paul or heard him use the name of Jesus. So, they added the name of Jesus to their incantation.
6. They learned their trade from their father, a Jew, chief priest in Jerusalem who was also an exorcist.
7. They probably had to leave Jerusalem for a new place, settling with Gentiles in Ephesus.

8. Sceva's name was given because he has been in the Bible before. Jesus met Sceva (Luke 11:14-20).

"And the evil spirit answered and said, "Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are you?" (Acts 19:15)

1. Satan knows those who are born again as much as he knows Jesus.
2. Satan does not know his own, "who are you."
3. Those who do not accept Jesus are not know in either kingdom (Luke 7:22-23).
4. Satan does not have a love list, only a hate list.
5. God does not have a hate list, only a love list.
6. Be born again and you will be on both lists.

"Then the man in whom the evil spirit was leaped on them, overpowered them, and prevailed against them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded. This became known both to all Jews and Greeks dwelling in Ephesus; and fear fell on them all, and the name of the Lord Jesus was magnified. And many who had believed came confessing and telling their deeds. Also, many of those who had practiced magic brought their books together and burned them in the sight of all. And they counted up the value of them, and it totaled fifty thousand pieces of silver. So the word of the Lord grew mightily and prevailed" (Acts 19:16-20).

1. This emphasized the importance of starting churches.
2. This also emphasizes the coming chapter to pastors.
3. Revivals begin with signs and wonders by the apostles but have to be turned over to pastors to train people.