

Acts 19: 11-20

We see two things;
seeking power through manifestations
manifesting power through purity

v.11 unusual miracles- even for miracles they were unusual

Observations on these unusual miracles.

- Note that these were unusual miracles; we should not expect that God would continue to use this method to bring healing.

- David Guzik- God delights in doing things in new and different ways; so we receive whatever is proven to be from the hand of God, but we pursue only that which we have a Biblical pattern for.

- sweat clothes

- What was Paul doing? Teaching the Word

v.13 these Jewish exorcists were concentrating on a ministry with demons- we do not see anyone of God concentrating on this type of ministry or being obsessed with it in Scripture- book of Ephesians speaks of spiritual warfare in chapter 6 but only 11 verses out of 115 verses in Ephesians deal with it, the rest of the book deals with who we are in Christ and how to live in that place of fellowship so that it is evident to all

Matthew 7:21 through Matthew 7:27 (NKJV) ²¹ *“Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven.* ²² *Many will say to Me in that day, ‘Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?’* ²³ *And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!’*

²⁴ *“Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock:* ²⁵ *and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock.*

²⁶ *“But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand:* ²⁷ *and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall.”*

Matthew 12:39 through Matthew 12:45 (NKJV) ³⁹ *But He answered and said to them, “An evil and adulterous generation seeks after a sign, and no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah.* ⁴⁰ *For as Jonah was three days and*

three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.

⁴³ "When an unclean spirit goes out of a man, he goes through dry places, seeking rest, and finds none. ⁴⁴ Then he says, 'I will return to my house from which I came.' And when he comes, he finds it empty, swept, and put in order. ⁴⁵ Then he goes and takes with him seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter and dwell there; and the last state of that man is worse than the first. So shall it also be with this wicked generation."

v.14 even the household of a priest is involved in this

v.15 Jesus we recognize, Paul we are acquainted with but who are you? The Name of Jesus is not some kind of magical charm but it is authority

v.17-19 got rid of everything that was evil- at a great cost

Are we willing for discipleship to cost ?

The signs and wonders, miracles, conviction- all come as a result of being in the Scriptures which brings purity

There is nothing amazing about grace if there is no fear in holiness

(1 John 3:1-3 NKJV) Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. {2} Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. {3} And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

Hebrews 11

v.2 obtained a good testimony

- if you want people to see Jesus and come the knowledge of Him, then your lifestyle needs to reflect that.

v.4 Abel- Cain's offering (*Gen 4:6-7 NKJV*) *So the LORD said to Cain, "Why are you angry? And why has your countenance fallen? {7} "If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its desire is for you, but you should rule over it."*

v.5 Enoch walked with God

- what does that mean to walk with ? to please Him ?

v.7 Noah moved with godly fear

- Do we have godly fear ?

v.8 Abraham obeyed

v.11 Sarah judged Him to be faithful

v.13-16 Are you willing to walk in what God has prepared for you ?

v.17-22 Faith was not just believing but obeying

v.25 Moses chose godliness over the pleasure of sin

v.30-34 There was a price to be paid for all these things

Chapter 12

What is that cloud of witnesses ?

Lay aside weight

- movies, tv, sports, beer

sin that ensnares

- envy, jealousy, strife, murmuring and complaining

Run with endurance Looking unto Jesus

Hebrews 12

v.1-2 Emphasize running the race with endurance and pure heart

- focus on Jesus

- ***some of us spend the time we should be racing at the concession stand***

v.3 Consider- compare

- the joy before Him, He endured the cross

- weary - (Gal 6:9 NKJV) *And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.*

- discouraged- if our eyes are on people or circumstances, we will be discouraged but not if our eyes are on Jesus

We have seen so many not finish the race

Complete the ministry