

Power of the Lord
Acts 19:11-20
November 13, 2022

God's Power Demonstrated Acts 19:11-12

- God did! – It's all about God, not Paul!
- Reminiscent of Jesus & Peter – Matt. 9:21 & Acts 5:15

God's Power Hijacked Acts 19:13-16

- Jewish Exorcists
 - Popular occupation around Empire for Jews
 - Attempt to co-opt the name of Jesus!
 - Claiming authority over demonic realm
- The incident – Seven sons of Sceva
 - A Jewish “High” Priest – Likely a self-designation!
 - Attempting to use the name of Jesus to make a buck.
 - Evil spirit – “Jesus I know, and I have heard of Paul, but who are you?”
 - The one possessed man beat the daylight out of the seven sons!

God's power respected Acts 19:17-20

- News spread! – A sense of the greatness of God impacted Ephesus!
- Even among the believers there was an impact!
 - Syncretism – Adding Christianity to cultural and religious identity
 - Then – Israelites with Baal
 - Then – Ephesians with magic scrolls
 - Now – Animism (Central America/ Africa/etc.)
 - Now – Modern America - Sheilism
 - Brought their scrolls and utterly destroyed them.
 - Value - 50,000 silver coins
 - Result: The Word of the Lord spread widely and grew in power.

Note:

- Magic and Superstition – God met them at their point of need!
- Our God is greater!

Application:

- Are you all-in?
- Are there things in your life you need to get rid of?

Homework: Read Ephesians 1-6 (again!)