

RUSSELL SANDERS

8-4-2021

THE APOSTLE PAUL – LESSON 34

SECOND MISSIONARY JOURNEY – PART 20

THE EPHESIAN MIRACLE REVIVAL

Upon Paul's return to Ephesus, the Jews of the synagogue hardened their hearts toward him, so he taught, preached, and ministered for two years in the school of Tyrannus in Ephesus. It had a tremendous result with many miracles performed. Word of it spread through Asia and many people came.

Not everyone who needed a miracle was able to travel to Ephesus, so something extraordinary occurred. Friends and relatives would bring small cloth articles, such as handkerchiefs or aprons to Paul. Paul would personally (presumably) anoint these items and people would take the item to the one in need and they received the same results as if Paul had personally laid hands on them. People were healed, diseases were cured, and even demons were cast out. (Acts 19:11-12.)

Yes, people's faith had much to do with this. However, the demons knew the source of Holy Ghost anointing through Paul from which it came. Sickness and afflictions had to flee.

This is a practice that has remained with us today, although seldom seen. "Anointed clothes" have also been misused and abused as fundraisers by some televangelists. Nevertheless, when done in faith at the direction of Holy Spirit, it can still be a viable practice. Just be sure it is of the Holy Spirit.

I witnessed this very thing as a youngster in my church. I also witnessed other "unusual" phenomena for healing. I am grateful for all I witnessed and learned during my Pentecostal childhood upbringing.