The Seven Sons of Sceva

13-14 Some wandering Jews were also trying to make evil spirits go out of people. The seven sons of Sceva were doing this. (Sceva was an important Jewish priest.) These Jews were using the name of the Lord Jesus to do this. They all said, “By the same Jesus whom Paul proclaims, I order you demons to come out!”

15 One time, an evil spirit said to these Jews, “I have heard about Jesus, and I know Paul, but who are you?”

16 Then the man who had the evil spirit jumped on these Jews. He was much stronger than they were. He beat them up and tore off their clothes. They ran away from that house. 17 All of the people who lived in Ephesus — Jews and Greeks — learned about this. They all began to have great respect for God. The people were giving more and more honor to the name of the Lord Jesus. 18 Many of the believers began to admit all of the evil things they had done. 19 Some of the believers had used black magic. These believers brought their occult books and burned them up in front of everyone. Those books were worth about two million dollars! 20 This is how the message of the Lord was influencing more and more people in a powerful way.