

COMPETITIVENESS...

Mark 9:38-40 — Now John answered Him, saying, “Teacher, we saw someone who does not follow us casting out demons in Your name, and we forbade him because he does not follow us.” But Jesus said, “Do not forbid him, for no one who works a miracle in My name can soon afterward speak evil of Me. For he who is not against us is on our side.”

Luke 9:49-50 — Then John answered and said, “Master, we saw someone casting out demons in Your name, and we forbade him because he does not follow with us.” but Jesus said to him, “Do not forbid him, for he who is not against us is for us.”

Acts 5:38-39 — [Gamaliel’s advice to the Jewish council concerning the apostles:] “And now I say to you, keep away from these men [the apostles] and let them alone; for if this plan or this work is of men, it will come to nothing; but if it is of God, you cannot overthrow it — lest you even be found to fight against God.”

Acts 19:13-17 — Then some of the itinerant [traveling] Jewish exorcists took it upon themselves to call the name of the Lord Jesus over those who had evil spirits, saying, “We adjure you by the Jesus whom Paul preaches.” Also there were seven sons of Sceva, a Jewish chief priest, who did so. And the evil spirit answered and said, “Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are you?” 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.

Acts 8:14 — Now when the apostles who were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, *they sent* Peter and John to them.

Acts 15:1-3 — And certain men came down from Judea and taught the brethren, “Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved.” Therefore, when Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and dispute with them, *they [the “brethren”] determined that Paul and Barnabas and certain others of them should go up to Jerusalem*, to the apostles and elders, about this question. So, being sent on their way by the church [the “brethren”], they passed through Phoenicia and Samaria...

Acts 16:4 — [Concerning the Jerusalem Council in regards to the decision made about circumcision, the Bible states:] And as they [Paul and company] went through the cities, they delivered to them the decrees to keep, which were determined by the apostles and elders at Jerusalem.

Acts 6:1-8 — Now in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplying, there arose a murmuring against the Hebrews by the Hellenists [Greek speaking Jews], because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution. Then the twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples and said, “It is not desirable that we should leave the word of God and serve tables. Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business; but we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word.” And the saying pleased the whole multitude. And *they [the brethren] chose Stephen...* And Stephen [who was only appointed to “wait on tables”], full of faith and power, *did great wonders and signs* among the people.

Acts 7:2-60 — Stephen [who was only appointed to “wait on tables”!], preaches to the Jewish council [which included the Jewish high priest], and as a result becomes the first martyr for Jesus Christ.

Acts 8:1-4 — Now Saul [Paul] was consenting to his [Stephen's] death. At that time a great persecution arose against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles. ...Therefore *those who were scattered [the church—the brethren] went everywhere “preaching the word.”*

Acts 11:19-21 — Now *those who were scattered [the brethren]* after the persecution that arose over Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus, and Antioch, *preaching the word* to no one but the Jews only. But some of them were men from Cyprus and Cyrene, who, when they had come to Antioch, spoke to the Hellenists, preaching the Lord Jesus. *And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number believed and turned to the Lord.*

Acts 6:1-6, 8:4-13, 8:26-40, 21:8-9 — [*Philip—who like Stephen was just appointed to “wait on tables”—preaches and baptizes and does miracles!*] Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria and PREACHED Christ to them. ...But when they believed Philip as he PREACHED the things concerning the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, both men and women were BAPTIZED. Then Simon himself also believed; and when he was baptized he continued with Philip, and was amazed, seeing the *miracles and signs* which were done.

Acts 8:26-39 — [An angel talks to Philip; then Philip PREACHES to an Ethiopian and *baptizes him*].

Acts 8:40 — But Philip was found at Azotus. And passing through, he PREACHED in all the cities till he came to Caesarea.

Acts 18:24-19:7 — [Apollos PREACHES.]

Acts 15:36-41 — [Paul and Barnabas dispute and separate.]

Acts 13:2, 14:14, 15:12, 15:25 — [Barnabas and Paul—Barnabas mentioned first].

Acts 14:12 — [Paul is the chief speaker.]

Acts 14:4 & 14 — [Barnabas and Paul called apostles.]

Acts 14:23 — [Barnabas and Paul appointed elders in every church -OR- Barnabas had elders elected in every church — see NIV footnote].

Luke 10:8-9 — [The “70” *heal and cast out demons* and they weren’t converted yet.]

Acts 8:5-7 — [Philip also *heals and casts out demons* and he is NOT an ordained minister.]

Heb 13:8 — Christ is the same yesterday...

Phil 1:14 — [The *brethren* speak the word boldly.]

Phil 1:15-18 — [Some were even preaching Christ in pre-tense and yet Paul still rejoiced.]

Numbers 11:25-29 — Then the Lord came down in the cloud, and spoke to him, and took of the Spirit that was upon him, and placed the same upon the seventy elders; and it happened, when the Spirit rested upon them, that they prophesied, although they never did so again. But two men had remained in the camp: the name of one was Eldad, and the name of the other Medad. And the Spirit rested upon them. Now they were among those listed, but who had not gone out to the tabernacle; yet they prophesied in the camp. And a young man ran and told Moses, and said,

“Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.” So Joshua the son of Nun, Moses’ assistant, one of his choice men, answered and said, “Moses my lord, forbid them!” Then Moses said to him, “Are you zealous for my sake? Oh, that all the Lord's people were prophets and that the Lord would put His Spirit upon them!”