

# Acts 19:12

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

So that from his body were brought unto the sick handkerchiefs or aprons, and the diseases departed from them, and the evil spirits went out of them.

## Analysis

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'From his body were brought unto the sick handkerchiefs or aprons, and the diseases departed from them, and the evil spirits went out of them.' These secondary relics (items touched by Paul) conveyed healing power. While unusual, this demonstrates God's sovereignty in using whatever means He chooses. However, this isn't normative - it was unique to apostolic ministry in a context saturated with magical practices.

## Historical Context

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This accommodation to Ephesian culture (where magical amulets and relics were common) showed God's power eclipsed pagan magic. The genuine miracles contrasted with the fraudulent magic prevalent in Ephesus.

## Related Passages

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**James 2:17** — Faith and works

**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

## Study Questions

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1. How does God sometimes accommodate cultural contexts in displaying His power?
2. What's the difference between biblical miracles and magical superstition?
3. How should we understand apostolic miracles versus expectations for today?

## Interlinear Text

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ὅστε καὶ ἐπὶ τοὺς ἀσθενοῦντας ἐπιφέρεσθαι ἀπ' τοῦ  
G5620 So unto G3588 the sick G770 were brought from G3588  
G2532 G1909 G4676 G2228 G4612 G575

χρωτὸς αὐτῶν σουδάρια ἢ σιμικίνθια καὶ  
body his handkerchiefs or aprons So  
G5559 G846 G4676 G2228 G4612 G2532

ἀπαλλάσσεσθαι ἀπ' αὐτῶν τὰς νόσους τά τε  
departed from his G3588 the diseases G3588 and  
G525 G575 G846 G3554 G5037

πνεύματα τὰ ποιηρὰ ἐξέρχεσθαι ἀπ' αὐτῶν  
spirits G3588 the evil went from his  
G4151 G4190 G1831 G575 G846

## Additional Cross-References

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**Acts 5:15** (Parallel theme): Insomuch that they brought forth the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and couches, that at the least the shadow of Peter passing by might overshadow some of them.

**Mark 16:17** (Evil): And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;