

Mark 6:12-13

So they went out and preached that people should repent. And they cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick, and healed them.

There is something I find very amazing about today's devotional verses. Let me include something a few verses back and see if you can see it too.

† **Mark 6:7** *And He called the twelve to Himself, and began to send them out two by two, and gave them power over unclean spirits.*

Still don't see it? Think about it, who was one of these twelve? Judas Iscariot.

So, Jesus sends out all twelve, including Judas Iscariot, who betrayed Jesus (And Jesus knew he would betray Him) and what does Jesus give him the power to do? To *cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick, and healed them.*

That just boggles my mind, because it never says that Judas Iscariot didn't do these thing or that he was excluded from the twelve from being a part of what they all did.

People are looking for signs and wonders, well if you read Revelation, signs and wonders will be performed but Satan and the Antichrist. Also, just because someone is active in the church, does not mean that he or she is saved. I have heard recently of a man who was serving in a church, even in the children's ministry who was arrested for child pornography. I know this church, the pastor and many of the people, including those in leadership, and would never ever thought that this could happen. But you know what, even the other eleven disciples were deceived, because Judas Iscariot seemed to be just like one of them. He hung out with Jesus and the other eleven for 3 years, they saw him pray for others to be healed and even cast out demons.

I also have a friend, who years ago during a bible study in someone's home told us all that for several years he pretended to be a Christian. He knew all the Christian lingo, was familiar with stories in the bible, and could even find a lot of the books in the bible without having to look in the Table of Contents to find out what page a book was on. I am also happy to say that he is saved and has been for many, many years. But still, they are not always easy to spot or evident in the church.

So, we need to be cautious, because even Jesus says:

† **Matthew 7:15** *Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves.*

Now you don't need to go on a witch hunt in your church or through your Christian friends. But we still do need to be cautious, because Jesus also said that:

† **Luke 10:3** *Go your way; behold, I send you out as lambs among wolves.*