

Elder Vernon Johnson

Numbers

Two

Two Witnesses for the Gospel

When the Lord send forth the gospel ministry to preach the gospel of the kingdom of God, he sent them forth by twos:

1. Mk. 6:7 "And he called unto him the twelve, and began to send them forth by two and two; and gave them power over unclean spirits; 8 And commanded them that they should take nothing for their journey, save a staff only; no scrip, no bread, no money in their purse: 9 But be shod with sandals; and not put on two coats. 10 And he said unto them, In what place soever ye enter into an house, there abide till ye depart from that place. 11 And whosoever shall not receive you, nor hear you, when ye depart thence, shake off the dust under your feet for a testimony against them. Verily I say unto you, It shall be more tolerable for Sodom and Gomorrha in the day of judgment, than for that city. 12 And they went out, and preached that men should repent."

2. Lk. 10:1 "After these things the Lord appointed other seventy also, and sent them two and two before his face into every city and place, whither he himself would come."

Likewise when Paul went forth to preach, the first journey he took Barnabas with him. On the second journey he took Silas with him. Often, but not always, the gospel ministry went forth in the gospels in pairs to preach the gospel. The Lord said, "It is also written in your law, that the testimony of two men is true." While there is no requirement that the gospel ministry work in pairs, yet it is a blessing for those who do. They strengthen and encourage one another and often their witness supplements one another.

Paul counseled the church at Corinth that the prophets (preachers) at meetings where there were multiple preachers, should speak by two or three: 1 Cor. 14:27 "If any man speak in an unknown tongue, let it be by two, or at the most by three, and that by course; and let one interpret. 28 But if there be no interpreter, let him keep silence in the church; and let him speak to himself, and to God. 29 Let the prophets speak two or three, and let the other judge." This pattern is usually followed at most Old Baptist meetings where there are multiple preachers.

