

# **Bold Witness for the King during Persecution**

**Acts 4:1-22**

**October 25, 2020**

Jesus promised his disciples three things.

1. They would be absurdly happy
2. They would be completely fearless
3. They would be in constant trouble

## **The Arrest v 1-4**

Who were the Sadducees?

What did they believe?

How did Jesus deal with them? Luke 20:37-40

You can arrest men, but you cannot arrest the church.

## **The Trial v5-7**

Annas and his high priestly family.

## **The Testimony v 8-12**

Filled with the Spirit (Luke 12:11-12)

There was real danger here. Peter received boldness to preach to them.

Hugh Latimer preached to King Henry VIII.

## **Listen to Peter's Boldness**

Are we on trial for an act of kindness, in healing a lame man?

You crucified Jesus the Messiah, but God raised him from the dead.

Jesus is the Cornerstone, the stone that you rejected. (Luke 20:9-17; 1 Peter 2:4; 1 Peter 2:7-8)

**Salvation in no other name.**

## **The Dilemma v 13-17**

We cannot deny the miracle, and we cannot acknowledge it.

**The Loophole v 18 (v 13)**

Unschooling, ordinary men. But they had been with Jesus.

Jewish Legal Loophole

**The Priority v 19-22**

What we have seen and heard. We must declare it.

Tell us, should we obey God, or should we obey you?

Two misconceptions

If we are faithful, God will protect us from persecution.

Persecution comes primarily from outside the church.

Will you deny truth in the face of pressure and persecution?

**Suggestions for Bold Witness**