

Focus: A Kingdom response to opposition is trusting in the sovereign plans of God as we pray for His Word and power to be revealed.

Background and Introduction: Peter and John - Forbidden to share in His Name, the Apostles report to the church. The Response?.....

I. A Prayer of Humble Submission – We Know *Who* We Serve!

A. A Sovereign Lord – *“one of unchallengeable power”*

1. Disciples acknowledge:

- a. God of Creation
- b. God of Revelation
- c. God of History!

B. Whom all must serve

1. Psalm 2

- The whole Psalm is in view.
- the earth/the nations are his heritage, his possession (Ps.2:8,9)
- “Kiss the Son, lest he be angry and you perish in the way.” (Ps.2:12)

2. We Serve the Sovereign Lord!

II. A Prayer for Kingdom Courage – We Know *How* We Serve.

A. “Look on their threats”

- Not asking for judgment,
- their threats can’t really stop us – or your word.

B. Make us Bold!

- Let *your servants* (Literally: slaves) continue to speak with power/boldness
- Not fearful of opposition
- Not in our power – but in His. **Example** - Dr. Howard Kelly, The *Johns Hopkins Kelly Gynecologic Oncology Service*
- Like the Savior!

III. Pray for the Kingdom Come - We Know *Where* We Serve.

A. For God to “stretch out His hand”

1. Put this in context.
2. Prayer?? Thy Kingdom Come! On earth as it is in Heaven!
 - These are all marks of the Kingdom of God .
 - Signs and wonders point to Christ’s power, authority, rule over every aspect of creation

B. The Kingdom of God *has come!*

- Christ has come into the world to establish His kingdom.
- The good news *is* being preached
- We are living in the Last Days!

C. The Kingdom of God *is Coming!*

1. We wait for Christ’s return. He is now in heaven until the time of restoration of all things (4:21).
2. He is preparing a people for himself – Titus 2:11-15

D. The Prayer is Answered.

IV. Conclusion:

- How do we respond to opposition? In self-righteous indignation? Or in Prayer?
- What about signs and wonders today?
- What does a *bold witness* that honors the Savior look like?
- Where do you need to trust the work of your Sovereign Lord?
- Where do you need power to speak his word – of salvation, of encouragement, of challenge or conviction?