

Acts 4:1-31

EMC Wednesday Night Bible Study - 12-7-16

Context

- I. Introduction
 - A. Introduction to Luke (Luke 1:1-4)
 - B. Introduction to Acts (Acts 1:1-5)
- II. In Jerusalem (1:6-6:7)
 - A. Waiting for Pentecost (1:6-26)
 - B. The Day of Pentecost (2:1-47)
 - C. The outbreak of persecution (3:1-4:31)**
 - D. Satanic counter-attack (4:32-6:7)

Peter and John on Trial (4:1-22)

V. 1 - "the Sadducees" - the wealthy _____ class. Policy of _____

- Not looking for a Messiah
- Denied the doctrine of the resurrection from the dead
- Apostles + _____ and _____

V. 1 - "captain of the temple guard" - kept law and order. Second in rank only to the high priest

- Vv. 3-4 - they can arrest the men, but not the gospel.
- Cf. Matthew 10:16-23; II Tim. 3:12, 4:1-5

The Sanhedrin - 71 members (elders, scribes, etc.), presided over by the high priest, Caiaphas

- V. 6 - "Annas the high priest"?
 - Father-in-law of Caiaphas
 - Deposed in AD 15. Retained his prestige, influence, and title (cf. Luke 3:2; John 18:12ff.)
- V. 7 - Memories of Jesus' trial?

Peter's Defense (4:8-12)

V. 7 - "By what power, or in what name, have you done this?" - Reminiscent of Luke 20:1-2

V. 8 - the Holy Spirit fulfills Christ's _____

A discernable pattern?

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The Court's Decision (4:13-22)

V. 13 - "amazed" because of the confidence of these "uneducated" and "untrained" men

- Not dumb or illiterate, but lacked formal _____ training
- Like Jesus! (v. 13)

V. 14 - "they had nothing to say in reply"

- Cf. Col. 2:15; Ephesians 1:20-22; Matthew 16:18

Vv. 15-17 - powerless, embarrassed, in a quandary. Solution = _____ them (v. 18)

The Church's Reaction (4:23-31)

Vv. 23-24 - The _____ church

- The 4 "R" sequence: " _____ " > _____ >
" _____ " > _____

V. 24 - Δέσποτα (despota) - "Sovereign Lord" - one who hold complete authority over another, a ruler of _____ power. Greater than the Sanhedrin!

- The sovereignty and power of God = _____ reality
 - He is the God of _____ (v. 24)
 - He is the God of _____ (vv. 25-26)
 - He is the God of _____ (vv. 27-28)
 - You "made" (v. 24); you "spoke" (v. 25); you "predestined" (v. 28)

3 main requests:

- V. 29a - "take note of their threats" - that God would _____ in his mind
- V. 29b - "grant that Your bond-servants may speak Your word with all confidence"
- V. 30 - "You extend Your hand to heal, and signs and wonders take place through the name of Your holy servant Jesus"
 - Compare/contrast with [Luke 9:51-56](#)
 - Miracles of _____ and _____

V. 31 + 5:12 = The answer to their prayers