

Welcome to the Worship Celebration of



SIMPLY BIBLICAL | FAMILY INTEGRATED

Church – The Beginnings, Part 10

Healing at the Temple – Acts 4:1-31 - Part 3



1. God's Miracle of healing this man who was lame from birth led to the Gospel being Presented.



**2. Presenting the Gospel of Christ, even if God uses an IRREFUTABLE, UNDENIABLE Miracle –
it can still lead to Persecution of some of kind (Acts 4:1-3)**



3. Persecution usually happens because The Gospel of Christ (when embraced and believed) destroys the control of the “powers that be” over sinful people outside of Christ (that “control” keeps the people in spiritual blindness and in bondage to sin) – Acts 4:1-4

“being GREATLY DISTURBED that they taught the people and preached in Jesus the RESURRECTION from the dead” Acts 4:2 – their Motivation

Peter and John knew that the Jewish Religious/Political Party of the Sadducees hated the Biblical Doctrine of the Resurrection – Yet they Preached “Jesus and the Resurrection” anyways. They did not cower or try to be Politically Correct or “walk on eggs shells” to avoid any confrontations. They simply Trusted and Obeyed God and Preached the Gospel of Christ.

This should give us COURAGE to be BOLD, Wise and Gentle with Spreading the Gospel of Christ, no matter what.

4. The INVESTIGATION: “By what Power or by what ‘Name’ have you done this?” (Acts 4:5-7; 13-17)

The Big Wigs of Power (Political, Social, Religious Powerful, Wealthy Powerful) are using various tactics to silence the Apostles. The Miracle (see Acts 3; 4:16,22) was UNDENIABLE, yet, those folks in Power were not persuaded by it to follow Jesus Christ. They were fully entrenched in their Social Status of Power (and its benefits) and in seeking their own way (not God’s way).



4. The INVESTIGATION: In most cases, just being jailed and brought before these Powerful People for investigation was enough to **SILENCE** most folks so that they'd never have to go through this again.

Those Powerful People were using the following tactics (tactics that Satan uses all the time):

- a. **INTIMIDATION** – seeking to produce all kinds of fears – including fear of unknown harms
- b. **Social Relational Threats** (fear of losing status – cast out of the local synagogue)
- c. **Economic Threats** (fear of losing income, property, etc. – you're fired)
- d. **Physical Threats** (fear of physical harm, even death – beatings, imprisonments, torture)





But Peter and John replied, “Which is right in God’s eyes: to listen to you, or to Him? You be the judges! ²⁰ As for us, we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard.”

Acts 4:19-20

5. The Response of Peter and John: (Acts 4:8-13; 19-20)

a. Powerful – in the Power of the Holy Spirit

b. Bold – Strong, Courageous, Steadfast regardless of pressure to compromise

c. Articulate – Acts 4:13 – “they realized that they had been with Jesus ...”

d. Factual – “... Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised ...”

e. Persuasive



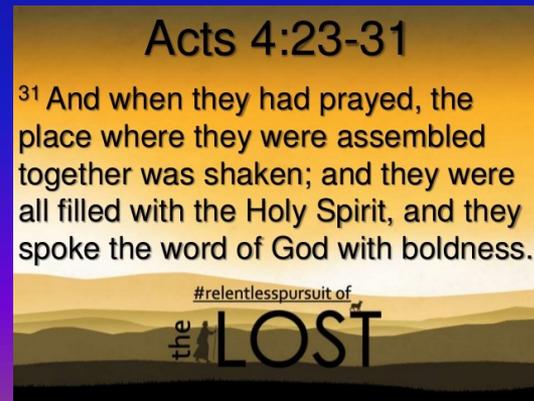
6. The Response of the Community of Faith (i.e.: the church) – Acts 4:23-31

a. Prayer:

i. Recalling God's Promises, the Human Threats, God's Faithfulness

ii. Petitioning God to Empower them to Preach the Gospel with all Boldness while Trusting in God to perform Miracles to CONFIRM His Word (Heb. 2:3-4)

b. Preaching God's Word – Boldly, in the Power of the Holy Spirit (notice: The Disciples (Christians) spread the Word of God (that was their part) and God did His Part → The Miraculous to Confirm His Word [Hebrews 2:3-4])



**Let's Worship God ... Because of Who He is,
For What He has done, and What He is Yet
to do → He is the GREAT GOD, ALMIGHTY
WHO HAS ALL CONTROL OVER THE
WHOLE UNIVERSE and TIME...**

**ALL POWERFUL ALMIGHTY GOD
The GOD of ISRAEL**

