

ACTS 4; October 5; Apostles Are Bold Under Persecution

ANALYSIS:

1. Who were especially grieved that the apostles taught about the resurrection of the dead? _____ And why? _____
2. What caused the Jewish rulers to marvel after Peter had addressed the council? _____
3. What Psalm did the apostles quote from in their prayer to the Lord?

4. What was the direct result of the apostles being filled with the Holy Ghost? _____
5. What does this chapter tell us about Barnabas? _____

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT:

Just a short while before this chapter the apostles had been puzzled about the meaning of the death of the Lord Jesus; here, however, by the power of the Holy Ghost, they fully understood the sovereign purpose and plan of God in that event. Even though Herod, Pilate, the Gentiles, and the people of Israel had been gathered together against the Lord Jesus, the apostles clearly acknowledge that this vicious throng could do nothing more against the Son of God than what the LORD had sovereignly determined before to be done. The great God of heaven used the wicked crowd's hatred and envy to accomplish the salvation of his people.

How would you and I react to persecution for the sake of Jesus Christ? The apostles responded boldly that they could do nothing but continue to preach the word of God. They then blessed and praised the LORD for his sovereign dealings among men. May we react just like the apostles. May we rejoice if we are counted worthy of suffering for his name and may we be strengthened in our resolve to stand boldly for the name of the Lord Jesus Christ in every situation.

HELP:

1. The Sadducees because they did not believe in the resurrection of the dead (Matthew 22:23).
2. Because they saw their boldness and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men (v 13).
3. Psalm 2.
4. They spake the word of God with boldness (v 31).
5. His name was Joses; Barnabas means "the son of consolation"; he was a Levite; he was from Cyprus (v 36).