# Lesson 3

## Acts Chapter 4

1. Peter and John before the Council vs. 1-22

VERSES 1-2:

The re are Challengers to the Gospel of Christ: There will be no permanent escape of persecution. Christ suffered much and the Believer will suffer persecution.

2Timothy 3:12—*Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.*

The Apostles’ did not set out for the purpose of getting arrested. Many unwise people have made a mockery of the Gospel and bring a poor testimony upon Christian ministry when they intentionally seek to be arrested for attention. We must be cautioned against breaking any law of the land especially when we could by some sacrifice of our own both act lawfully in the eyes of man and be obedient to God.

Peter and John are imprisoned for their “good deed”, but Peter, by the Anointing of the Holy Ghost, does not endure a grueling sentencing, but is given by God just another “kind” of congregation—the council of the Rulers and Elders of Israel!

VERSES 3-12: PREACHED…

V. 4 Yes, they were imprisoned, but About 5,000 Male Converts

V. 5-7 A Counsel Gathers to Question the two Blasphemous Men

Vv.8-12 Peter Preaches [**AGAIN**]

Peter’s Response to the *Counsel’s Question: By what Power was this man healed?* Jesus Christ of Nazareth: Whom Ye Crucified, Whom God Resurrected, The Stone You Builders Set at Nought, The Stone which is become the Cornerstone, Through Whose Name, Only, is Salvation

Peter’s had more than an argument, Peter had an experience.

VERSES 13-16: The Council’s Dilemma This Man has Obviously been Healed; There is no Way to Deny It

VERSES 17,18: The Council’s Decision/ The Council will “threaten” Peter and John not to speak at all or teach in the name of Jesus.

VERSES 19,20: Peter and John Refuse to “Bow” to the Council’s Threats

VERSES 21.22: The Council Defeated

1. A Hallelujah Meeting, vs. 23-31

God Responds with more POWER of the Holy Ghost When they are released, they testified of the power of God and the people that were saved only a short while before and others with them respond in united prayer to God. When they had prayed, the house was “shaken” by the power of God and these precious souls were now ALL filled with the Holy Ghost. We can see in this passage a pattern for Revival.

#### Prayer vs. 31

#### Preach the Word vs. 31

#### Praise and Exalt Christ vs. 33

1. The Believers Share their Possessions vs. 32-37

## Acts Chapter 5

1. Ananias and Sapphira Lie to the Apostle vs. 1-11
2. Many are Healed by God through the Apostles vs. 12-16
3. The Apostles are Persecuted vs. 17-42
4. The Witnesses 32

#### The Apostles are Witnesses

#### The Holy Ghost is a Witness

#### The Holy Ghost is witness to the obedient

#### The Holy Ghost is witness to the Resurrected Lord

#### The Holy Ghost is witness of the exalted Saviour

## Acts Chapter 6

1. Seven are Chosen to Serve vs. 1-7

v. 3 *Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business. …Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolas a proselyte of Antioch:*

1. The Arrest of Stephen vs. 8-15

## Acts Chapter 7

1. Stephen’s Speech to the Council vs. 1-53
   * + 1. The Gospel Preached
       2. The Holy Ghost Resisted
       3. The God of Glory Appearing
     + Appearing to Abraham v. 2 (Gen. 11:31-12:3)
     + Appearing to Joseph v. 9
     + Appearing to Moses v. 30
     + Appearing to Stephen vs. 55-56
2. The Stoning of Stephen vs. 54-60
3. Unselfish Prayer - Intercessory Prayer
4. Unselfish Life - Resolving the Conflict

**Lesson 3 Study Questions**

1. Ch. 4
2. Ch. 5
3. Ch. 6
4. Ch. 7