

“Acts: Learning to Be the Church”
Week #6: “Threats Against the Name”
Faith Bible Church
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Acts 4:1-31 (*New American Standard*)

1 And as they were speaking to the people, the priests and the captain of the temple guard, and the Sadducees, came upon them, **2** being greatly disturbed because they were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead. **3** And they laid hands on them, and put them in jail until the next day, for it was already evening. **4** But many of those who had heard the message believed; and the number of the men came to be about five thousand.

5 And it came about on the next day, that their rulers and elders and scribes were gathered together in Jerusalem; **6** and Annas the high priest was there, and Caiaphas and John and Alexander, and all who were of high-priestly descent. **7** And when they had placed them in the center, they began to inquire, "By what power, or in what name, have you done this?" **8** Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers and elders of the people, **9** if we are on trial today for a benefit done to a sick man, as to how this man has been made well, **10** let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead — by this name this man stands here before you in good health. **11** "He is the stone which was rejected by you, the builders, but which became the very corner stone. **12** "And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men, by which we must be saved."

13 Now as they observed the confidence of Peter and John, and understood that they were uneducated and untrained men, they were marveling, and began to recognize them as having been with Jesus. **14** And seeing the man who had been healed standing with them, they had nothing to say in reply. **15** But when they had ordered them to go aside out of the Council, they began to confer with one another, **16** saying, "What shall we do with these men? For the fact that a noteworthy miracle has taken place through them is apparent to all who live in Jerusalem, and we cannot deny it. **17** "But in order that it may not spread any further among the people, let us warn them to speak no more to any man in this name." **18** And when they had summoned them, they commanded them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus. **19** But Peter and John answered and said to them, "Whether it is right in the sight of God to give heed to you rather than to God, you be the judge; **20** for we cannot stop speaking what we have seen and heard." **21** And when they had threatened them further, they let them go (finding no basis on which they might punish them) on account of the people, because they were all glorifying God for what had happened; **22** for the man was more than forty years old on whom this miracle of healing had been performed.

23 And when they had been released, they went to their own companions, and reported all that the chief priests and the elders had said to them. **24** And when they heard this, they lifted their voices to God with one accord and said, "O Lord, it is Thou who didst make the heaven and the earth and the sea, and all that is in them, **25** who by the Holy Spirit, through the mouth of our father David Thy

servant, didst say, 'Why did the Gentiles rage, and the peoples devise futile things? **26** 'The kings of the earth took their stand, and the rulers were gathered together Against the Lord, and against His Christ.'

27 "For truly in this city there were gathered together against Thy holy servant Jesus, whom Thou didst anoint, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel, **28** to do whatever Thy hand and Thy purpose predestined to occur. **29** "And now, Lord, take note of their threats, and grant that Thy bond-servants may speak Thy word with all confidence, **30** while Thou dost extend Thy hand to heal, and signs and wonders take place through the name of Thy holy servant Jesus." **31** And when they had prayed, the place where they had gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak the word of God with boldness.

LIFE TRUTHS FROM TODAY'S SCRIPTURE TO REMEMBER WHEN CHALLENGES ARE DIRECTED AGAINST "THE NAME":

- I.** The name of Jesus will always draw _____ from "the _____".
(Acts 4:1-3)

- II.** Despite the _____ of some, many will _____.
(Acts 4:4)

- III.** The " _____ " is the best _____ to challenges.
(Acts 4:5-22)
 - A. His name is lifted up as we _____ about _____.
 - B. His name is lifted up as He _____ our _____.

- IV.** Nothing happens that _____ hasn't already _____.
(Acts 4:24-28)

- V.** When faced with challenges, _____ for power to _____ them.
(Acts 4:29-31)