

GO STAND AND SPEAK

ACTS 5:12-21

Text: Acts 5:20

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²⁰Go, stand and speak in the temple to the people all the words of this life.

Introduction:

We have seen that the church in the first century went through a cycle of prayer, power, preaching and persecution. As a result of the persecution, they would return to prayer and see a return of God's power and the furtherance of the Gospel.

Following the outpouring of God's power seen in Acts 4, there was a tragedy in the church at Jerusalem. The Holy Spirit was quenched; He was lied to by Ananias and Sapphira. God moved in judgment and the results was great fear in the church.

There perception of God was shaped by what they saw of His judgment.

Proverbs 9:10

¹⁰*The fear of the LORD is the beginning of*

wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding.

God is a holy God and He moves in the midst of a people who are walking after Him in righteousness.

God desires purity in His Church.

Note:

1. THE POWER RETURNS TO THE CHURCH (vs. 12-16)

Acts 5:12-16

¹² And by the hands of the apostles were many signs and wonders wrought among the people; (and they were all with one accord in Solomon's porch. ¹³ And of the rest durst no man join himself to them: but the people magnified them. ¹⁴ And believers were the more added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women.) ¹⁵ Insomuch that they brought forth the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and couches, that at the least the shadow of Peter passing by might overshadow some of them. ¹⁶ There came also a multitude out of the cities round about unto Jerusalem, bringing sick folks, and them which were vexed with unclean spirits: and they were healed every one.

A. Great wonders

B. Great unity

C. Multitudes added

2. THE PERSECUTION RETURNS AGAINST THE CHURCH (VS. 17-19)

Acts 5:17-19

¹⁷ Then the high priest rose up, and all they that were with him, (which is the sect of the Sadducees,) and were filled with indignation, ¹⁸ And laid their hands on the apostles, and put them in the common prison. ¹⁹ But the angel of the Lord by night opened the prison doors, and brought them forth, and said,

A. The High Priest is Infuriated

B. The Apostles are imprisoned

3. THE PROCLAMATION OF THE LORD (VS. 19-21)

Acts 5:19-21

¹⁹ But the angel of the Lord by night opened the prison doors, and brought them forth, and said, ²⁰ Go, stand and speak in the temple to the people all the words of this life. ²¹ And when they heard that, they entered into the temple

early in the morning, and taught. But the high priest came, and they that were with him, and called the council together, and all the senate of the children of Israel, and sent to the prison to have them brought.

A. God's Intervention

B. God's Commission

1. Go – We are to go

2. Stand – Let us take our stand for Christ

Ephesians 6:13-16

¹³ Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. ¹⁴ Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; ¹⁵ And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; ¹⁶ Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.

3. Speak – “All the words of life.”

We need to Go, Stand and Speak, but without the power of God we will never accomplish our purpose or mission.

We see that sin takes the power away, and confession and holiness will bring it back.

We have seen God's power, and we must not flinch during times of trials.