

INTRODUCTION

- * Over the past three weeks, we considered the miraculous healing of the lame man through Peter and John, and their ensuing confrontation with the Sanhedrin. The Sanhedrin warned them to not proclaim the name of Jesus publicly anymore. When they were released, they went directly back to where the believers were meeting to give a report and the church prayed for even more boldness! In the face of political/religious persecution they didn't pray for the demise of their oppressors, they prayed for boldness to proclaim God's truth!
- * Last week, we saw how God answered that prayer! The greatness of our God was on full display through what He was accomplishing through those who were committed to Him. At the end of the passage which we considered last week we saw that the Apostles, and chiefly Peter, were able to perform mighty wonders and many were bringing those who were physically or demonically oppressed to Peter for healing.
- * Today, we see that this did not escape the notice of the Sanhedrin.

INSTRUCTION**I. THE ARREST OF THE APOSTLES (v. 17-26)****A. The 1st Arrest**

1. THE SANHEDRIN IMPRISONED THEM (v. 17-18; cf. Acts 7:9; 13:45; 17:5; Romans 13:13; 1 Corinthians 3:3; 13:4)
2. THE LORD RELEASED THEM (v. 19-21a)

B. The 2nd Arrest (cf. Romans 13:1-7)**II. THE TRIAL OF THE APOSTLES (v. 27-40)****A. The D_____ of The High Priest**

1. THE A_____
2. THE A_____ (cf. Mark 16:15; Matthew 28:18-20; Luke 24:46-49)

B. The D_____ of The Sanhedrin**C. The D_____ of The Sanhedrin****III. THE REACTION OF THE APOSTLES (v. 41-42)****A. They R_____ In S_____ For Christ**

- * cf. Matthew 5:10-12; Luke 6:22; Romans 5:3; 2 Corinthians 12:10; Philippians 1:29

B. They C_____ In T_____ About Christ (cf. Acts 4:29-31)**INTROSPECTION**

- * Are you willing to suffer for the name of Jesus?
- * We are not even being fully persecuted right now ... how are we using the freedom we have for Christ?
- * Are we honoring the governing authorities?
- * Is there a need to change the way you think and therefore the way you act?

INTERACTION ... Thoughts & Questions to ponder for later discussion

- * What are some specific areas in our culture by which we are tested in our loyalty to obedience to Christ? How can we properly handle them?