

A Study in Acts

Lesson 6: Acts 5:12 – 5:42

Growth In the Church

Act 5:12-16 KJV

Those that might oppose the Apostles would not come near them, most likely because of what had happened to _____ and _____. Before long, throngs of people were seeking out the Apostles to have their sick healed.

And the Apostles took advantage of this by teaching them Jesus and the way to salvation. As a result, the church grew in “_____”.

Reaction to the Growth of the Church

The Apostles Imprisoned

Act 5:17-18 KJV

The high priest is no doubt making good on one of the threats made to Peter and John back in Acts 4. This time, apparently all of the Apostles are taken to the local jailhouse.

The Jail Break

Act 5:19-21 KJV

It is interesting to note that they were not freed in order to go hide or seek to their own _____. They were freed so that they might go back to the temple and continue to teach “_____”.

The Apostles on Trial

Act 5:22-24 KJV

When they all heard that the cells were empty though the guards were in place and the doors shut a bolted, they were uncertain how it had been done and what _____ they were about to face as a result of this _____.

The Apostles Before the Council

Act 5:25-28 KJV

Jesus had promised them they would be brought before the entire _____, and here they were.

Notice that the Apostles are said to have “_____” with their doctrine.

The Apostles' Defense

Act 5:29-32 KJV.

Peter starts, but the others talk as well. Their point is that they should obey the commandments given to them from God by the angel (_____) rather than the commands given to them by the council (_____).

Then, they again offer the accusation that it was these men, the council, that took an active part in having Jesus slain. That God, with his right hand (that is with his power), exalted him so he could turn Israel from its ungodly ways and for the forgiveness of sins.

In verse 32, the Apostles do their chief duty of witnessing the resurrection. Then we come to a line that many use to indicate we all get the Holy Spirit when we obey the gospel. Many use this to say that we all should get the miraculous gifts the Apostles have when we are baptized. But what we receive is not the extraordinary gifts, but the ordinary measures of his grace.

The Sanhedrin's Response

[Act 5:33-39 KJV](#)

Notice that the Sanhedrin are “_____”, not “_____” as the crowd was in Acts 2. The difference is guilt versus anger.

Gamaliel tells the council that they should let the Apostles go and for a very logical reason. If the things the Apostles do are done with the _____, they will eventually fail and be destroyed by the Romans. If the Apostles really are who they claim to be, the Sanhedrin would be trying to _____; an unwinnable battle.

The Verdict

[Act 5:40 KJV](#)

The council could not turn the Apostles loose without some kind of punishment. So they beat them before releasing them. In Matthew 10:17, Jesus had warned them that this would happen.

[Mat 10:17 KJV](#)

Typically, they would be whipped _____ . Paul also received this punishment:

[2Co 11:24 KJV](#).

The Apostles Rejoice

[Act 5:41-42 KJV](#)

The Apostles took to heart Jesus' teaching at the sermon on the mount:

[Mat 5:10-12 KJV](#)

The Apostles also knew that they would not be prevented from assembling the church for awhile. So this was also a cause for rejoicing. And so, this part of the story ends with the church growing and thriving in the very heart of the land of its enemies, and Jesus Christ was preached every day, not only in the temple, but in every house as well.