



*The*  
**ACTS**

OF THE APOSTLES



## *Today's Scripture Reading*

Acts 4:13-22



*<sup>13</sup> Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated, common men, they were astonished. And they recognized that they had been with Jesus. <sup>14</sup> But seeing the man who was healed standing beside them, they had nothing to say in opposition. <sup>15</sup> But when they had commanded them to leave the council, they conferred with one another, <sup>16</sup> saying, “What shall we do with these men? For that a notable sign has been performed through them is evident to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and we cannot deny it. <sup>17</sup> But in order that it may spread no further among the people, let us warn them to speak no more to anyone in this name.”*



*<sup>18</sup> So they called them and charged them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus. <sup>19</sup> But Peter and John answered them, “Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you rather than to God, you must judge, <sup>20</sup> for we cannot but speak of what we have seen and heard.” <sup>21</sup> And when they had further threatened them, they let them go, finding no way to punish them, because of the people, for all were praising God for what had happened. <sup>22</sup> For the man on whom this sign of healing was performed was more than forty years old.*



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- Luke and Acts started as **one book** encouraging Theophilus on the Life and works of Jesus.
- Jesus **ris**es from the dead and reveals himself.
- Jesus **reveals his mission** and provides the power to accomplish it.
- His believers are **filled with the Holy Spirit**
- The life of Jesus and the fulfillment of the OT **validates that God made Jesus Lord.**



- The Jews face their reality of **being enemies of God** without Christ and ask what must they do.
- Peter tells them to **“Repent!”** and trust Jesus.
- God gives grace and **many become Christians**
- The early church **begins to form Christian Community**
- Jesus heals through Peter and John **to validate his rule**



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## JOHN 7:14-17

<sup>14</sup> About the middle of the feast Jesus went up into the temple and began teaching. <sup>15</sup> The Jews therefore marveled, saying, “How is it that this man has learning, when he has never studied?” <sup>16</sup> So Jesus answered them, “My teaching is not mine, but his who sent me. <sup>17</sup> If anyone's will is to do God's will, he will know whether the teaching is from God or whether I am speaking on my own authority.



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→ MATTHEW 7:28-29



## MATTHEW 7:28-29

<sup>28</sup> And when Jesus finished these sayings, the crowds were astonished at his teaching, <sup>29</sup> for he was teaching them as one who had authority, and not as their scribes.



## PROVERBS 2:3-5

<sup>3</sup> Yes, if you call out for insight and raise your voice for understanding, <sup>4</sup> if you seek it like silver and search for it as for hidden treasures, <sup>5</sup> then you will understand the fear of the LORD and find the knowledge of God. <sup>6</sup> For the LORD gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding



<sup>13</sup> Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated, common men, they were astonished. And **they recognized that they had been with Jesus.**



<sup>13</sup> Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated, common men, they were astonished. And they **recognized that they had been with Jesus.**

**How were they like Jesus?**

They had **authority**

They did **miracles**

They **interpreted**  
the Old Testament



<sup>14</sup> But seeing the man who was healed standing beside them, they had nothing to say in opposition.

<sup>15</sup> But when they had commanded them to leave the council, they conferred with one another, <sup>16</sup> saying, “What shall we do with these men? For that a notable sign has been performed through them is evident to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and **we cannot deny it.** <sup>17</sup> But in order that it may spread no further among the people, let us warn them to speak no more to anyone in this name.” <sup>18</sup> So they called them and charged them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus.



## JOHN 3:19

<sup>19</sup> And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil.





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<sup>15</sup> But when they had commanded them to leave the council, they conferred with one another, <sup>16</sup> saying, “What shall we do with these men? For that a notable sign has been performed through them is evident to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and **we cannot deny it.** <sup>17</sup> But in order that it may spread no further among the people, let us warn them to speak no more to anyone in this name.” <sup>18</sup> So they called them and charged them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus.



19 But Peter and John answered them, “Whether it is right in the sight of God to **listen to you rather than to God, you must judge,** 20 For we cannot but **speak of what we have seen and heard.**” 21 And when they had further threatened them, they let them go, finding no way to punish them, because of the people, for all were praising God for what had happened. 22 For the man on whom this sign of healing was performed was more than forty years old.



# The Main persecution in America: **Ego Persecution**



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### **1 PETER 2:12**

<sup>12</sup> Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation.

### **1 PETER 4:13**

<sup>13</sup> But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed.



## The Main persecution in America: **Ego Persecution**

### **MARK 13:13**

<sup>13</sup> And you will be hated by all for my name's sake. But the one who endures to the end will be saved.

### **2 CORINTHIANS 1:5**

<sup>5</sup> For as we share abundantly in Christ's sufferings, so through Christ we share abundantly in comfort too.



## The Main persecution in America: **Ego Persecution**

### PHILIPPIANS 3:10

<sup>10</sup> that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death..



## CLOSING THOUGHT



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