

To the Ends of the Earth: Session 9
Acts 5:17-42
Unstoppable

Questions:

1. The followers of Jesus were filled with the Holy Spirit. What were the High Priest and Sadducees filled with?

Jealousy

They were jealous of Jesus because it was his name, rather than theirs, that was being proclaimed. They were also jealous of the apostles because they were preaching powerfully and doing miracles and because people were following them. The religious leaders wanted both of these things: They wanted to be well known, to have a “name” among the people; and they wanted people to follow them. -- Boice

2. What happened to the Apostles in verse 18?

The apostles were arrested and put in prison.

3. In verses 19-20, an angel of the Lord frees the apostles from prison. What did the angel of the Lord tell the apostles to do?

Go to the temple and preach the Gospel.

4. The Sanhedrin is convened to question the Apostles, but the Apostles are not in prison. The Jewish leaders soon discover that the Apostles are preaching and teaching in the temple. According to verse 26, why did the Jewish leaders not arrest the Apostles with force?

The Jewish leaders feared they would be stoned by the people.

5. Once the Apostles were before the Sanhedrin, what charge did the High Priest bring against the Apostles?

The High Priest reminded the Apostles that they had forbid them to preach the name of Jesus. Yet, they had filled Jerusalem with the teachings of Jesus. The Apostles intended to bring the blood of Jesus on the hands of the religious leaders.

6. What did Peter say in verses 29-32?

We must obey God rather than men. You killed Jesus in a shameful way. But God exalted Jesus sitting him at the right hand of the Father to give repentance and forgiveness of sin.

7. Why were the Jewish leaders enraged and ready to kill the Apostles?

They considered the words of Peter as blasphemy.

8. Who became an unexpected ally of the disciples?

Gamaliel

9. What do we know about Gamaliel?

Gamaliel was the leading Rabbi of the day. He was respected and loved by the people. He was Paul's teacher.

10. Summarize what Gamaliel advised the Jewish Sanhedrin to do.

Do nothing to stop the Apostles. If it's a movement of God, it cannot be stopped. You don't want to end up opposing God.

11. The Jewish leaders took Gamaliel's advice. But what did the Jewish leaders do to the Apostles before they released them?

They beat the disciples.

Exegetical Summary of Acts: Flogging was a customary punishment used as a warning not to persist in an offense. It consisted of thirty-nine lashes, often referred to as the forty less one. Based on the provision for forty stripes given in Deut. 25:3, the practice had developed of only giving thirty-nine in the event of miscounting, preferring to err on the side of clemency rather than severity

12. What did the apostles do upon leaving the Jewish leaders?

They rejoiced that they were counted worthy to suffer for Jesus.

Every day, they continued to preach and teach Jesus Christ.