

# Christianity On Trial

## Acts 4:5-22

PART ONE

### Introduction

**Persecution begins.**

**A startling realization: Jesus Christ is manifestly *alive*.**

John 14:12

Greater in extent, not power.

Acts 6:7

The ongoing work of the Word producing: + *salvation* and - *persecution*.

“Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.” 2 Timothy 3:12

*If we're not being persecuted, what does that say about our life and witness?*

Philippians 1:29

**Persecution of all stripes is by divine appointment.**

**Why? Because it belongs to Him! And because of this, it is cause for *rejoicing*.**

Colossians 1:24-25

Romans 8:35-36

**The point is that the persecution we endure today is a continuation of people's hatred for Jesus Christ.**

2 Corinthians 4:11

1 Peter 4:12-16

Matthew 5:10-12

**Suffering persecution produces vital spiritual growth that could not be produced any other way.**

Romans 5:3-4

James 1:12

**Persecution is God's test of your faith.**

1 Peter 1:6-7

Philippians 2:17-18

2 Thessalonians 1:4

Luke 6:22-23

2 Timothy 2:11-13

## I. The Inquiry (vv5-7)

The Sadducees had the wealth and political power.

John 11:45-53

*“they set them in the midst”*

*“By what power or by what name did you do this?”*