

The Dark Storm Clouds Break on the Church (Acts 4.1-12)

- 1) A man lame from birth is healed by Peter (4: 1-10)
- 2) ‘The Apostle Peter Preaches to & Admonishes the Crowd (3:11-26)

Peter charged his listeners with these serious sins:

They had handed Him over to be killed”

They had disowned Him before Pilate

They had disowned the Holy & Righteous One, sought the release of a murderer

They had killed the Author of Life

I. The Arrest of Peter and John (Acts 4: 1- 4)

The temple authorities intervened & arrested Peter & John (*temple guard*)

Sadducees – no authority in the temple – many priests came from them

Sadducees denied the resurrection and were troubled by Peter’s teaching

Healing of the lame man & Peter’s preaching threatened their power

Many believed (4) but the leaders responded in fear & jailed Peter & John

II. Peter and John before the Sanhedrin (4:5-11)

Peter & John jailed overnight; next day brought before the Sanhedrin

Apostles were placed in the midst of ‘**their rulers / elders & scribes**’

They questioned them: by what power did you do this? In whose name?

They knew what happened, but they wanted to trap them for blasphemy

Peter was filled with the Holy Spirit and boldly testified to Jesus’ power

Peter – why are we arrested, doing this good deed, this healed lame man?

Jesus Christ whom you crucified; God raised Him from the dead.

There is no other name under heaven given among men by which men must be saved