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The Presence: Conflicting Outcomes

Acts 4:1-4 - *While Peter and John were speaking to the people, the priests and the captain of the temple guard and the Sadducees came up to them, ² greatly disturbed that they were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection of the dead. ³ They seized Peter and John, and because it was evening, they put them in custody until the next day. ⁴ But many who heard the message believed, and the number of men grew to about five thousand.*

1. Many Came To Christ.

Luke 16:10 - *"If you are faithful in little things, you will be faithful in large ones..."*

The Best Argument For The Power Of God Is A Changed Life

2. The Religious Leaders Came Against The Apostles.

John 15:18-19 - *"If the world hates you, remember that it hated me first. ¹⁹ The world would love you as one of its own if you belonged to it, but you are no longer part of the world. I chose you to come out of the world, so it hates you.*

Matthew 10:17-20 - *But beware! For you will be handed over to the courts and will be flogged with whips in the synagogues. ¹⁸ You will stand trial before governors and kings because you are my followers. But this will be your opportunity to tell the rulers and other unbelievers about me. ¹⁹ When you are arrested, don't worry about how to respond or what to say. God will give you the right words at the right time. ²⁰ For it is not you who will be speaking—it will be the Spirit of your Father speaking through you.*

Acts 4:5-10 - *The next day the council of all the rulers and elders and teachers of religious law met in Jerusalem. ⁶ Annas the high priest was there, along with Caiaphas, John, Alexander, and other relatives of the high priest. ⁷ They brought in the two disciples and demanded, "By what power, or in whose name, have you done this?" ⁸ Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers and elders of our people, ⁹ are we being questioned today because we've done a good deed for a crippled man? Do you want to know how he was healed? ¹⁰ Let me clearly state to all of you and to all the people of Israel that he was healed by the powerful name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, the man you crucified but whom God raised from the dead..."*

John 16:1-2 - *I have told you these things so that you won't abandon your faith. ² For you will be expelled from the synagogues, and the time is coming when those who kill you will think they are doing a holy service for God.*

We Have To Know Him Personally, Even More So Experientially

Acts 4:13-14 - *The members of the council were amazed when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, for they could see that they were ordinary men with no special training in the Scriptures. They also recognized them as men who had been with Jesus. ¹⁴ But since they could see the man who had been healed standing right there among them, there was nothing the council could say.*

Acts 1:4-5, 8 - *...“Do not leave Jerusalem until the Father sends you the gift he promised, as I told you before. ⁵ John baptized with water, but in just a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit...⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”*

Jesus Promised Holy Spirit Empowerment For Our Mission Ahead

John 14:16-17 - *And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, who will never leave you. ¹⁷ He is the Holy Spirit, who leads into all truth. The world cannot receive him, because it isn't looking for him and doesn't recognize him. But you know him, because he lives with you now and later will be in you.*

Jesus Promised That The Holy Spirit Would Dwell Within Us, Giving Us Ongoing Companionship

John 14:26 - *But when the Father sends the Advocate—that is, the Holy Spirit—he will teach you everything and will remind you of everything I have told you.*

The Holy Spirit As Teacher Will Help Us Remember Christ's Teachings And Deepen Our Understanding

John 15:26 - *But I will send you the Advocate—the Spirit of truth. He will come to you from the Father and will testify all about me.*

The Holy Spirit Will Testify About Jesus, Strengthening The Truth Of His Message

Luke 24:49 - *And now I will send the Holy Spirit, just as my Father promised. But stay here in the city until the Holy Spirit comes and fills you with power from heaven.*

The Holy Spirit Empowers Christ Followers For Their Calling