

The Heat Continues - Acts Chapter 3-4

Week 7:

(Acts 4:1 NIV) The priests and the captain of the temple guard and the Sadducees came up to Peter and John while they were speaking to the people.

Who were the Sadducees?

No resurrection

No personal Messiah

Compromisers, politicians, corrupt

They ran the temple

(Acts 4:2 NIV) They were greatly disturbed because the apostles were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection of the dead.

Why would these guys, specifically, be so disturbed?

(Acts 4:3 NIV) They seized Peter and John, and because it was evening, they put them in jail until the next day.

(Acts 4:4 NIV) But many who heard the message believed, and the number of men grew to about five thousand.

(Acts 4:5 NIV) The next day the rulers, elders and teachers of the law met in Jerusalem.

Acts 4:6 NIV) Annas the high priest was there, and so were Caiaphas, John, Alexander and the other men of the high priest's family.

Who is Annas? Who is Caiaphas?

Where have we seen these guys before?

(John 18:13 NASB) and led Him to Annas first; for he was father-in-law of Caiaphas, who was high priest that year.

John 18:13: Vs. 18:13 A small inner circle of high priests, headed by Annas and Caiaphas, ruled Jerusalem regardless of who was officially the high priest. See note on Luke 3:2.

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(John 18:19 NASB) The high priest therefore questioned Jesus about His disciples, and about His teaching.

(John 18:20 NASB) Jesus answered him, "I have spoken openly to the world; I always taught in synagogues, and in the temple, where all the Jews come together; and I spoke nothing in secret.

(John 18:21 NASB) "Why do you question Me? Question those who have heard what I spoke to them; behold, these know what I said."

(Acts 4:7 NIV) They had Peter and John brought before them and began to question them: "By what power or what name did you do this?"

(Acts 4:8 NIV) Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them: "Rulers and elders of the people!

(Acts 4:9 NIV) If we are being called to account today for an act of kindness shown to a cripple and are asked how he was healed,

Great line Peter!!! How do you think the priests felt at this statement?

How is this statement yet another sign of God's grace?

How does God show grace to the unrighteous today?

What does His salvation plan for all people cost all of us?

(Acts 4:10 NIV) then know this, you and all the people of Israel: It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed.

(Acts 4:11 NIV) He is "'the stone you builders rejected, which has become the capstone.'

1 Peter 2:6

⁶For *this* is contained in Scripture:

“BEHOLD, I LAY IN ZION A CHOICE STONE, A PRECIOUS CORNER *stone*,
AND HE WHO BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT BE DISAPPOINTED.”

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1 Peter 2:7

⁷This precious value, then, is for you who believe; but for those who disbelieve,

“THE STONE WHICH THE BUILDERS REJECTED,
THIS BECAME THE VERY CORNER *stone*,”

1 Peter 2:8

⁸and,

“A STONE OF STUMBLING AND A ROCK OF OFFENSE”;

for they stumble because they are disobedient to the word, and to this *doom* they were also appointed.

What does this mean? How is this statement significant today?

How is Jesus a stumbling block today?

(Acts 4:12 NIV) Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved."

(Acts 4:13 NIV) When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus.

(Acts 4:14 NIV) But since they could see the man who had been healed standing there with them, there was nothing they could say.

(Acts 4:15 NIV) So they ordered them to withdraw from the Sanhedrin and then conferred together.

(Acts 4:16 NIV) "What are we going to do with these men?" they asked. "Everybody living in Jerusalem knows they have done an outstanding miracle, and we cannot deny it.

(Acts 4:17 NIV) But to stop this thing from spreading any further among the people, we must warn these men to speak no longer to anyone in this name."

(Acts 4:18 NIV) Then they called them in again and commanded them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus.

(Acts 4:19 NIV) But Peter and John replied, "Judge for yourselves whether it is right in God's sight to obey you rather than God.

(Acts 4:20 NIV) For we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard."

(Acts 4:21 NIV) After further threats they let them go. They could not decide how to punish them, because all the people were praising God for what had happened.

(Acts 4:22 NIV) For the man who was miraculously healed was over forty years old.

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This all sounds like the gospels.....

Messiah signs

Spiritual Blindness

Brutality by the Rulers

What is different?

Jesus is there, physically, in them.... Just like in u