



Miracles At Night & Resolute Obedience To God

“Did not we straitly command you that ye should not teach in this name? and, behold, ye have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, and intend to bring this man's blood upon us” (Acts 5:28).

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“Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men” (Acts 5:29).

“Then the high priest rose up, and all they that were with him, (which is the sect of the Sadducees,) and were filled with indignation, 18 And laid their hands on the apostles, and put them in the common prison. 19 But the angel of the Lord by night opened the prison doors, and brought them forth, and said, 20 Go, stand and speak in the temple to the people all the words of this life. 21 And when they heard that, they entered into the temple early in the morning, and taught. But the high priest came, and they that were with him, and called the council together, and all the senate of the children of Israel, and sent to the prison to have them brought. 22 But when the officers came, and found them not in the prison, they returned and told, 23 Saying, The prison truly found we shut with all safety, and the keepers standing without before the doors: but when we had opened, we found no man within. 24 Now when the high priest and the captain of the temple and the chief priests heard these things, they doubted of them whereunto this would grow. 25 Then came one and told them, saying, Behold, the men whom ye put in prison are standing in the temple, and teaching the people. 26 Then went the captain with the officers, and brought them without violence: for they feared the people, lest they should have been stoned. 27 And when they had brought them, they set them before the council: and the high priest asked them, 28 Saying, Did not we straitly command you that ye should not teach in this name? and, behold, ye have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, and intend to bring this man's blood upon us. 29 Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men. 30 The God of our fathers raised up Jesus, whom ye slew and hanged on a tree. 31 Him hath God exalted with his right hand to be a Prince and a Saviour, for to give repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins. 32 And we are his witnesses of these things; and so is also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey him” (Acts 5:17-32).

Proverbs 29:25 reminds us that “The fear of man bringeth a snare: but whoso putteth his trust in the Lord shall be safe”. Pursuing a problem free life is an illusion, as problems beset everyone in different sizes and shades. David became great by conquering Goliath, Moses his Pharaoh, etc; and so

will you if you determine to face your giants with God's help. The bumps on the path of life are the stepping stones to if we walk with God. The storms of life in a believer's life, gives God the opportunity to demonstrate what He can do. These were the experience of the apostles in the face of indignation from the religious leaders of the time. Note how God intervened for them:

- 1) They were put in the common prison (vs 18).
- 2) Angels released them at night (vs 19). God will intervene at the midnight of your crisis just like he did for these apostles as well as for Paul and Silas (Acts 16);
- 3) **Their release was not for escape to safety but re-commissioned to preach the Gospel**, which they obeyed (vs 20,21)
- 4) Their miraculous deliverance baffled their enemies who wondered “whereunto this would grow” (vs 21-24)
- 5) On learning of their whereabouts, they were re-arrested, **without violence for fear of being stoned by the people** (vs 25-26)
- 6) They were arrayed before the council who attempted to silence them again (vs 27-28)
- 7) The resolute determination of the apostles not to be silenced by the enemies of God was evident in their firm response “**we ought to obey God rather than men**” (vs29). They appealed to the superior law of God that takes precedence over man's.
- 8) Their response was followed by powerful exposition of the very scriptures that these people did not want to hear (vs 30-32)

Expect miracles at every night of your crisis, and God will never disappoint you. Never allow the illusion of a problem free live imprison you with fear of inactivity resulting in a life of disobedience to God. **In times like these, be resolutely determined to obey God irrespective of the consequences.**