



When The Devil Fights Back

Acts 4:1-20

When The Devil
Fight Back

The word "FEAR" is rendered in large, bold, metallic block letters with a brushed metal texture. The letters are three-dimensional and are set against a circular opening in a rough, grey concrete wall. The lighting creates highlights and shadows on the letters, giving them a sense of depth and weight. The background wall is textured and shows signs of wear and age.

FEAR

1 Peter 4:16

“Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in this matter.”



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The discouraging condition

The dramatic confrontation

The decisive conclusion

The discouraging condition

Acts 4:1-4

*Now as they spoke to the people, the priests, the captain of the temple, and the Sadducees came upon them, 2 being greatly disturbed that they taught the people and preached in Jesus the resurrection from the dead. 3 And they **laid hands** on them, and **put them in custody** until the next day, for it was already evening. 4 However, many of those who heard the word believed; and the number of the men came to be about five thousand.*



The discouraging condition

Acts 4:1-4

The temple officials took Peter and John into custody

* The Sadducees were particular upset.

- They were “grieved” that Peter and John preached the resurrection of Jesus. They did not believe in any kind of bodily resurrection.

- Because they cooperated with the Romans, they wielded tremendous power. They were leery of anyone that might upset the status quo.

The discouraging condition

Acts 4:1-4

- * Anytime God begins to work, the devil will try to discourage you.
 - He will try to make you give up, or worse yet, he will tempt you to compromise the gospel.
 - God is still at work even when the devil attacks. As a result of Peter's message, five thousand more people came to Christ.

The dramatic confrontation

Acts 4:5-12

5 And it came to pass, on the next day, that their rulers, elders, and scribes, 6 as well as Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and as many as were of the family of the high priest, were gathered together at Jerusalem. 7 And when they had set them in the midst, they asked, “**By what power or by what name have you done this?**”

8 Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders of Israel: 9 If we this day are judged for a good deed done to a helpless man, by what means he has been made well, 10 let it be known to you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by Him this man stands here before you whole. 11 This is the ‘stone which was rejected by you builders, which has become the chief cornerstone.’ 12 Nor is there salvation in any other, for **there is no other name** under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”



The dramatic confrontation

Acts 4:5-12

- Peter set forth three important truths:
 1. The lame man had been healed by Jesus Christ of Nazareth.
(v10)
 2. Jesus' death and resurrection fulfilled Old Testament prophecy (v10)
 3. Jesus is the only way of salvation.(v12)

Tình thế quyết định

Công vụ 4:13-20

13 Khi chúng thấy sự dạn dĩ của Phi-e-rơ và Giăng, biết rõ rằng ấy là người dốt nát không học, thì đều lấy làm lạ; lại nhận biết hai người từng ở với Đức Chúa Jê-sus. **14** Nhưng vì thấy người được chữa lành đứng bên hai người, nên chúng không có lời gì để bẻ bác được hết. **15** Chúng biểu hai người ra khỏi tòa công luận rồi, bèn bàn luận cùng nhau, **16** rằng: Chúng ta xử với hai người này làm sao? Vì cả dân thành Giê-ru-sa-lem đều biết rõ thật họ đã làm ra một phép lạ sờ sờ; chúng ta chối không nổi. **17** Dầu vậy, hầu cho việc khỏi đồn ra trong dân nữa, chúng ta nên lấy lời **ngăn dọa, cấm** họ, từ rày về sau, chớ lấy danh đó dạy dỗ không cứ là ai. **18** Họ bèn đòi hai người vào, rồi cấm tiệt, chẳng cho nhân danh Đức Chúa Jê-sus mà nói hay là dạy. **19** Nhưng Phi-e-rơ và Giăng trả lời rằng: **Chính các ông hãy suy xét, trước mặt Đức Chúa Trời có nên vâng lời các ông hơn là vâng lời Đức Chúa Trời chẳng?** **20** Vì, về phần chúng tôi, không có thể chẳng nói về những điều mình đã thấy và nghe.

The decisive conclusion

Acts 4:5-12

- * The Sanhedrin was unsure how to react to Peter and John
 - They “marveled” at their boldness
 - They decided to put some fear into them... *“commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus”*
- * Peter insisted he would obey God first.

The decisive conclusion

Acts 4:5-12

- Our first duty is to obey God (1 Peter 4:15-16).



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Prayer

- Dear Jesus Christ, I pray to glorify in every situations.
In Jesus' name, Amen.