

## Acts (of the Holy Spirit)

### Acts 5:17-42 Obey God over People

#### 1. What happens when we **Obey God**?

- a. When we obey God, **people react in different ways** towards us.
  - i. They feel **threatened**.<sup>18</sup> They arrested the apostles and put them in the public jail.
  - ii. They react out of **fear**.<sup>26</sup> At that, the captain went with his officers and brought the apostles. They did not use force, because **they feared** that the people would stone them.
  - iii. They are filled with **jealousy**.<sup>17</sup> Then the high priest and all his associates, who were members of the party of the Sadducees, were **filled with jealousy**.
- b. We will be **questioned**.<sup>27</sup> The apostles were brought in and made to appear before the Sanhedrin to be **questioned** by the high priest.
- c. We will be **told not to teach** about Jesus.<sup>28</sup> "We gave you strict orders **not to teach in this name**," he said. "Yet you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and are determined to make us guilty of this man's blood."
- d. We will be **persecuted**.<sup>33</sup> When they heard this, **they were furious** and wanted to put them to death. ...<sup>40</sup> His speech persuaded them. They called the apostles in and had them **flogged**. Then they ordered them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go.

#### 2. How do we **Obey God**?

- a. We **tell people** all about this new life.<sup>19</sup> But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the doors of the jail and brought them out.<sup>20</sup> "Go, stand in the temple courts," he said, "and **tell the people all about this new life**."
- b. We **teach them** through the power of the Holy Spirit.<sup>21</sup> At daybreak they entered the temple courts, as they had been told, and began to **teach the people**...<sup>25</sup> Then someone came and said, "Look! The men you put in jail are standing in the temple courts **teaching the people**."
- c. We learn to trust and **obey God** rather than human beings.<sup>29</sup> Peter and the other apostles replied: "**We must obey God rather than human beings!** and fulfill his mission. Matthew 28:18-20

#### 3. When we **Obey God**, what are his promises to us?

- a. God promises to **give his Holy Spirit** to those who obey him.<sup>32</sup> We are witnesses of these things, and so is the **Holy Spirit**, whom God **has given to those who obey him**."
- b. God's mission **will not fail**.<sup>38</sup> Therefore, in the present case I advise you: Leave these men alone! Let them go! For if their purpose or activity is of human origin, it will fail.<sup>39</sup> **But if it is from God, you will not be able to stop these men**; you will only find yourselves **fighting against God**."
- c. That we can **rejoice** in proclaiming his name.<sup>41</sup> The apostles left the Sanhedrin, **rejoicing** because they had been counted worthy of suffering disgrace for the Name.

<sup>42</sup>Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, they never stopped teaching and **proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Messiah**