



μάρτυρας

W I T N E S S E S

**Never, ever ask a woman if she's pregnant unless you see an actual baby being born. Even then, act surprised.**



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W I T N E S S E S



• **VIDEO PLACEHOLDER**





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WITNESSES

# ACTS 4:1-29

**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. <sup>2</sup> THEY WERE GREATLY DISTURBED BECAUSE THE APOSTLES WERE *TEACHING THE PEOPLE, PROCLAIMING IN JESUS THE RESURRECTION OF THE DEAD.***

# ACTS 4:1-29

**<sup>3</sup> THEY SEIZED PETER AND JOHN AND, BECAUSE IT WAS EVENING, THEY PUT THEM IN JAIL UNTIL THE NEXT DAY. <sup>4</sup> BUT MANY WHO HEARD THE MESSAGE BELIEVED; SO THE NUMBER OF MEN WHO BELIEVED GREW TO ABOUT FIVE THOUSAND.**

# **ACTS 4:1-29**

**<sup>5</sup> THE NEXT DAY THE RULERS, THE ELDERS AND THE TEACHERS OF THE LAW MET IN JERUSALEM.<sup>6</sup> ANNAS THE HIGH PRIEST WAS THERE, AND SO WERE CAIAPHAS, JOHN, ALEXANDER AND OTHERS OF THE HIGH PRIEST'S FAMILY.**



# **ACTS 4:1-29**

**<sup>7</sup> THEY HAD PETER AND JOHN BROUGHT BEFORE THEM AND BEGAN TO QUESTION THEM: “BY WHAT POWER OR WHAT NAME DID YOU DO THIS?” <sup>8</sup> THEN PETER, FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT, SAID TO THEM: “RULERS AND ELDERS OF THE PEOPLE!**

# ACTS 4:1-29

***<sup>9</sup> IF WE ARE BEING CALLED TO ACCOUNT TODAY FOR AN ACT OF KINDNESS SHOWN TO A MAN WHO WAS LAME AND ARE BEING ASKED HOW HE WAS HEALED, <sup>10</sup> 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 4:1-29**

**<sup>11</sup> JESUS IS**

**“THE STONE YOU BUILDERS REJECTED,  
WHICH HAS BECOME THE CORNERSTONE.”**

**<sup>12</sup> SALVATION IS FOUND IN NO ONE ELSE,  
FOR THERE IS NO OTHER NAME UNDER  
HEAVEN GIVEN TO MANKIND BY WHICH WE  
MUST BE SAVED.”**

# ACTS 4:1-29

**<sup>13</sup> 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. <sup>14</sup> BUT SINCE THEY COULD SEE THE MAN WHO HAD BEEN HEALED STANDING THERE WITH THEM, THERE WAS NOTHING THEY COULD SAY.**

# ACTS 4:1-29

**<sup>15</sup> SO THEY ORDERED THEM TO WITHDRAW FROM THE SANHEDRIN AND THEN CONFERRED TOGETHER.<sup>16</sup> “WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO WITH THESE MEN?” THEY ASKED. “EVERYONE LIVING IN JERUSALEM KNOWS THEY HAVE PERFORMED A NOTABLE SIGN, AND WE CANNOT DENY IT.**

# **ACTS 4:1-29**

**<sup>17</sup> BUT TO STOP THIS THING FROM SPREADING ANY FURTHER AMONG THE PEOPLE, WE MUST WARN THEM TO SPEAK NO LONGER TO ANYONE IN THIS NAME.”**

**<sup>18</sup> THEN THEY CALLED THEM IN AGAIN AND COMMANDED THEM NOT TO SPEAK OR TEACH AT ALL IN THE NAME OF JESUS.**

# ACTS 4:1-29

**<sup>19</sup> BUT PETER AND JOHN REPLIED, “WHICH IS RIGHT IN GOD’S EYES: TO LISTEN TO YOU, OR TO HIM? YOU BE THE JUDGES! <sup>20</sup> AS FOR US, WE CANNOT HELP SPEAKING ABOUT WHAT WE HAVE SEEN AND HEARD.”**

# ACTS 4:1-29

**<sup>21</sup> 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. <sup>22</sup> FOR THE MAN WHO WAS MIRACULOUSLY HEALED WAS OVER FORTY YEARS OLD.**



# ACTS 4:1-29

**<sup>23</sup> ON THEIR RELEASE, PETER AND JOHN WENT BACK TO THEIR OWN PEOPLE AND REPORTED ALL THAT THE CHIEF PRIESTS AND THE ELDERS HAD SAID TO THEM. <sup>24</sup> WHEN THEY HEARD THIS, THEY RAISED THEIR VOICES TOGETHER IN PRAYER TO GOD. "SOVEREIGN LORD," THEY SAID, "YOU MADE THE HEAVENS AND THE EARTH AND THE SEA, AND EVERYTHING IN THEM.**

# **ACTS 4:1-29**

**<sup>25</sup> YOU SPOKE BY THE HOLY SPIRIT THROUGH THE MOUTH OF YOUR SERVANT, OUR FATHER DAVID: “WHY DO THE NATIONS RAGE AND THE PEOPLES PLOT IN VAIN?**

**<sup>26</sup> THE KINGS OF THE EARTH RISE UP AND THE RULERS BAND TOGETHER AGAINST THE LORD AND AGAINST HIS ANOINTED ONE.**

# ACTS 4:1-29

**<sup>27</sup> INDEED HEROD AND PONTIUS PILATE MET TOGETHER WITH THE GENTILES AND THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL IN THIS CITY TO CONSPIRE AGAINST YOUR HOLY SERVANT JESUS, WHOM YOU ANOINTED. <sup>28</sup> THEY DID WHAT YOUR POWER AND WILL HAD DECIDED BEFOREHAND SHOULD HAPPEN.**

# ACTS 4:1-29

**<sup>29</sup> NOW, LORD, CONSIDER THEIR THREATS AND ENABLE YOUR SERVANTS TO SPEAK YOUR WORD WITH GREAT BOLDNESS. <sup>30</sup> STRETCH OUT YOUR HAND TO HEAL AND PERFORM SIGNS AND WONDERS THROUGH THE NAME OF YOUR HOLY SERVANT JESUS.”**

# ACTS 4:1-29

**<sup>31</sup> AFTER THEY PRAYED, THE PLACE WHERE THEY WERE MEETING WAS SHAKEN. AND THEY WERE ALL FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT AND SPOKE THE WORD OF GOD BOLDLY.**





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WITNESSES

**BELIEF IS CHALLENGED**



# **BELIEF IS CHALLENGED**

***<sup>3</sup> THEY SEIZED PETER AND JOHN AND...  
THEY PUT THEM IN JAIL...***

***<sup>7</sup> THEY HAD PETER AND JOHN BROUGHT  
BEFORE THEM AND BEGAN TO QUESTION  
THEM...***

***<sup>17</sup> ...WE MUST WARN THEM TO SPEAK NO  
LONGER TO ANYONE IN THIS NAME.”***





# **JAMES 1:2-4**

**CONSIDER IT PURE JOY, MY BROTHERS AND SISTERS, WHENEVER YOU FACE TRIALS OF MANY KINDS, BECAUSE YOU KNOW THAT THE TESTING OF YOUR FAITH PRODUCES PERSEVERANCE. LET PERSEVERANCE FINISH ITS WORK SO THAT YOU MAY BE MATURE AND COMPLETE, NOT LACKING ANYTHING.**

**BELIEF IS CONTAGIOUS**



# **BELIEF IS CONTAGIOUS**

**<sup>4</sup> BUT MANY WHO HEARD THE MESSAGE BELIEVED...**

**<sup>20</sup> ...WE CANNOT HELP SPEAKING ABOUT WHAT WE HAVE SEEN AND HEARD.”**

**<sup>21</sup> ...ALL THE PEOPLE WERE PRAISING GOD FOR WHAT HAD HAPPENED.**

# **JOHN 13: 34-35**

**“A NEW COMMAND I GIVE YOU: LOVE ONE ANOTHER. AS I HAVE LOVED YOU, SO YOU MUST LOVE ONE ANOTHER. <sup>35</sup> BY THIS EVERYONE WILL KNOW THAT YOU ARE MY DISCIPLES, IF YOU LOVE ONE ANOTHER.”**

**“A PERSON’S COMING TO CHRIST IS LIKE A CHAIN WITH MANY LINKS...THERE ARE MANY INFLUENCES AND CONVERSATIONS THAT PRECEDE A PERSON’S DECISION TO CONVERT TO CHRIST. I KNOW THE JOY OF BEING THE FIRST LINK AT TIMES, A MIDDLE LINK USUALLY, AND OCCASIONALLY THE LAST LINK. GOD HAS NOT CALLED ME TO ONLY BE THE LAST LINK.”**

**-CLIFFE KNECHTLE**

# **THE COST OF CONTAGIOUS CHRISTIANITY**

- **TIME & ENERGY**
- **READING & STUDYING**
- **MONEY**
- **RISK OF EMBARRASSMENT, REJECTION,  
OR PERSECUTION**
- **IT COMPLICATES YOUR LIFE**

**BELIEF IS COURAGEOUS**





# **BELIEF IS COURAGEOUS**

**<sup>13</sup> 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.**



# **BELIEF IS COURAGEOUS**

**<sup>29</sup> NOW, LORD, CONSIDER THEIR THREATS  
AND ENABLE YOUR SERVANTS TO SPEAK  
YOUR WORD WITH GREAT BOLDNESS.**



**“DO NOT PRAY FOR EASY LIVES. “PRAY TO BE STRONGER MEN AND WOMEN. DO NOT PRAY FOR TASKS EQUAL TO YOUR POWERS. PRAY FOR POWERS EQUAL TO YOUR TASKS.” THAT IS THE WAY THE EARLY CHRISTIANS PRAYED, AND THAT IS THE WAY GOD’S PEOPLE SHOULD PRAY TODAY.**

**-REV. PHILLIPS BROOKS**



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