

Acts 4:1-12

INTRODUCTION: Every Christian has a DESIRE to witness.

- Your faith says “Go!”, but your fear says “No!”.

4:1-2 – “*as they spoke*” – Peter’s sermon is interrupted.

- Sadducees – **4:6** ... **3:15**, **3:26**

4:3 – “*custody*” – Sanhedrin was the Supreme Court – **4:5-6**

- When you speak about Christ, there will be opposition.

- Being a Christian isn’t supposed to be easy!

- “*already evening*” – Night trials were illegal.

- We don’t witness because of FEAR of the unknown.

4:4 – “*However*” – Persecution only strengthened the Church.

- Was the persecution worth it? **2:41**, **2:47**, **4:4**

4:5 – “*it came to pass*” – Look to ETERNITY!

4:7 – See **3:3**, **3:16** – Mosaic Law – Deuteronomy 13:1-5

- “*Fear*” sees the obstacles, “*faith*” sees the opportunities.

4:8 – “*filled with the Holy Spirit*” – 1 indwelling, many fillings.

- Jesus said they would need this – Lk. 21:12-15, Jn. 14:26

- Rely on the Holy Spirit in your witnessing.

- If Peter can be “*filled with the Holy Spirit*”, so can you – **4:13**

- “*Before we can be a witness for God, we must first walk with God.*”

4:9-10 – Peter’s only responsibility was to tell them about Jesus.

- “*whom God raised from the dead*” – Jesus is ALIVE!

- Peter later wrote 1 Peter 3:15.

- To be a bold witness, let others know from the start that you’re a Christian – **3:6**, **3:13**, **4:10** ... **4:13**

4:11 – John 14:26 – You have to KNOW the Scriptures before you can REMEMBER them!

4:12 – Jonah 2:9b – “*Salvation is of the LORD*”.

- “*no other name*” – Romans 10:13 ... John 14:6

- God doesn’t make any EXCEPTIONS – **4:12**

- Do you believe this verse?

CONCLUSION:

- We just ASSUME others don’t want to hear what we have to tell them.

- A bold witness comes from the Holy Spirit – **4:8**, **4:12**, **4:31**

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