

## 44-Acts-Pt04-Transcript

ah

the courage of the young man that you just saw there is very inspiring that of course is a clip from the conflict of Tiananmen Square and what we see is this army coming in to crush the student revolt and one student standing up to this army of tanks coming and because of the desire for freedom not fearing what would happen to him personally and extremely effective in extremely inspiring and that kind of courage is what today's study is all about here in first John 4 and verse 4 John says to the Christians you are of God little children and have overcome them because greater is He that is in you than he that is in the world and I think we should take great comfort and inspiration from this scripture and Peter says here in first Peter 4 verse 13 but rejoice in as much as you are partakers of Christ's sufferings so if we are partakers of his sufferings we should rejoice that when his glory shall be revealed you may be glad also with exceeding joy and this is the question we know that Christ is returning when he returns at his appearance will we have joy or fear this is the question that should be on our mind if you be reproached for the name of Christ you're happy you're blessed if your approach we have to really digest these scriptures if we are reproached for the name of Christ we are blessed for the spirit of glory and of God rests upon you on their part he is evil spoken of but on your part he is glorified but let none of you suffer as a murderer or as a thief or as an evildoer or as a bit about busybody in men's matters yet if any man suffer

as a Christian  
you are doing what Christ commands you  
to do and as a result you suffer I  
suffer this is a completely different  
situation if any man suffer as a  
Christian let him not be ashamed but let  
him glorify God on this behalf that you  
or I have been selected to suffer for  
Christ this is profound and we should  
glorify God that we should have such an  
honor to suffer for Christ for the time  
has come that judgment must begin at the  
house of God and if it first begin at us  
what shall be the end of them that obey  
not the gospel of God so this is very  
frightening brethren that judgment is  
going to begin with the church and God  
is looking for faithfulness when the Son  
of Man returns will he find faith on the  
earth and if we are selected to suffer  
for his sake we should rejoice and we  
should have that faith in his return and  
if the righteous scarcely be saved where  
shall the ungodly and center appear I  
think a lot of us in the church are  
overconfident hey I'm in the church it's  
all good i'll just waltz into the  
kingdom and what the scriptures are  
saying is not so fast because of the  
righteous will scarcely be saved we have  
to strive with all our might for this  
salvation and if we are scarcely saved  
where shall the ungodly and the sinner  
appear therefore let them that suffer  
according to the will of God there's a  
will of God that no one can resist and  
if you and I are selected to suffer as  
Christians according to this will of God  
then we must commit the keeping of our  
souls to him in well-doing as unto a  
faithful creator when you see a young  
man in China tiananmen square  
demonstrating that kind of courage and  
conviction without the knowledge of

Christ

where does that put you are I what kind of courage do we have in the face of persecution and that's what tonight's study is all about as we move into Acts chapter 4 let's begin with prayer and then let's get right into the study our Heavenly Father we come before you and we praise you Lord God as our faithful creator we thank you so much for selecting us to be firstfruits to understand your scripture that we can open your word and read it and understand it for what it says and we pray for more of this understanding father and we pray now as we study the book of Acts that you would enlighten us and that through our study we would be inspired by the Apostles and the early church and we would understand father that these things are written for our admonition we pray for the conviction and the boldness that you want to see in us and we ask this Lord in Jesus name so X chapter 4 actually let's go back to chapter 3 we left off with this phenomenal miracle of this man a 40 years old who is crippled from birth and Peter healed him and that was amazing so just remember remember here in verse 7 4 x3 and he took him by the right hand he was a begging alms and he said they uh Peter said I don't have a silver or gold but what I do have I'll give you and he took him by the right hand and lifted him up and immediately his feet and ankle bones receive strength and he leaping up stood and walked and entered with them into the temple walking and leaping and praising God so everybody in the temple have passed this man for many many years and decades now see him in the temple praising God and leaping and walking and all the people saw him

walking and praising God and they knew that it was him which SAT for arms at the beautiful gate of the temple so there's no mistaking this this is a true miracle we know this man he's never walked and now he's in the temple we see him we know he's rejoicing and praising God we know this is a true miracle and they were filled with Wonder and amazement at that which happened unto him and then from that Peter then launched into a sermon teaching the people of Israel what this all meant and he coming down to verse 24 of Acts three he says yes and all the prophets from Samuel and those that follow after as many as have spoken have likewise foretold of these days this was all prophesied and Peter's in the middle of this sermon when suddenly as they spake beginning now in chapter 4 verse 1 as they spoke unto the people the priests and the captain of the temple and the Sadducees came upon them so here comes the governing powers now here come the authorities and so he's in the middle of this sermon when the authorities show up and they were grieved that they taught the people and preached through Jesus the resurrection from the dead so so what is grieving them so there's this been phenomenal miracle this man who's lame from his birth is now leaping and pray God is being praised and the people are in awe and the people are praising god and peter is now explaining the Word of God and now come the authorities and they're grieved and what are they grieved about that that Peter and John are teaching the people they don't like that they should be the teachers so they feel like there's a usurpation of authority here so the Greve that they're not the ones teaching that Peter and

John are teaching and specifically what really grieves them is that they are preaching through Jesus the resurrection of the dead and of course we know the Sadducees would denied the resurrection they denied any sort of life after death and they certainly were against the resurrection but specifically what they're against is the preaching of the resurrection of Jesus and we need to take note of that that this is what is at issue that this is what Christ has called the apostles to do to preach the death burial and resurrection of Christ and the return of Christ of the king of Israel so they were grieved about this and they laid they were so grieved today basically arrested them they laid hands on them and put them in hold in prison until the next day so it was too late to to have them try they put them in hold until the next day verte was now evening how be it so even though this happened that they've come and they they've interrupted the sermon and they don't want them preaching they've put them now that they've arrested them however many of them which heard the word believed and the number of the men was about five thousand so when we finished in on the day of Pentecost three thousand converts were added to the church and and the church was being attitude daily and now at this point after this miracle the number of men was about five thousand so no you can add households had the wives had the children and so it's a good number of believers now and and this powerful preaching is reaching people and people are repenting so here he says and it came to pass them in verse 5 on the morrow the next day that their rulers and elders and scribes and anas the high priest and Caiaphas and John

and Alexander and notice this and as many were of the Kindred of the high priest in other words these are all the people that have something to lose they've enjoyed being in this position of power though the Romans are over the Jews and the Romans pick and choose who the high priests should be and these people have power and authority because of the auspices of the Romans and they all have a vested interest now and Peter and John are teaching without their authority and people are praising God and not looking to them this is scary to them they're going to lose their power and so all of these people have a vested interest in keeping the status quo and keeping their power they all gather so they're all gathered together at Jerusalem and when they had set them in the midst so they want to know now they put Peter and John in the middle of this entourage of power this is these are the authorities that can really make things miserable for Peter and John and they're gonna ask them now when they set them in the midst they asked by what power or by what name have you done this we want to know what we are very disappointed you know the fact that a miracle has occurred and this man who's lame from birth is released from this bondage that's beside the point we don't really care about that what we care about is we're the ones in power we have authority the Romans have put us in charge and were you coming from by what power or by what name have you done this then Peter filled with the Holy Spirit and we have to go back to the day of Pentecost that this is all about Jesus Christ sending the comforter as the father had promised and filling the disciples filling the Apostles with the

Holy Spirit why so that they would have the boldness and the conviction to preach truth and to speak truth to power you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem in Judea in Samaria and unto the uttermost parts of the earth and it's going to take power for you to do that and this is now the first confrontation that they're having with the authorities and we can see the work of Pentecost we can see the work of them being filled with the Holy Spirit that instead of backing down and saying oh didn't mean to upset you they preach the truth of the resurrection of Christ then Peter filled with the Holy Spirit said unto them you rulers of the people and elders of Israel if we this day be examined of the good deed done to the impotent man by what means he has made whole it so is that your question that you want to understand by what means this important man is made whole remember the video that we opened with last week where we saw this woman who was deaf from birth and through this miracle of technology they were able to fit her with a hearing instrument an implant where after they had tuned it for the very first time she then hears her voice and look at the reaction look at this powerful moment of the emotion of being released from this bondage this is what we're talking about and so can you imagine the absolute joy that this man would have had who was lame from birth and he's been released from this bondage and this is their question you know they don't really care that the man is released and he's freed from this bondage and that he's praising God and the people are praising God and everybody is turning to god that's not that's that's unimportant what's

important is where the people in power  
and you're acting outside of our  
Authority and we want to know and so  
Peter makes a clarity is your question  
you're the reason you're examining us is  
because we've done good to this this  
important man is that the question and  
this they would know that he's really  
speaking to what Christ said to them and  
look at here in John when when when  
Christ said I and my father are one and  
when they heard that they didn't you  
know this whole the truth around Jesus  
is the issue and he says I am my father  
one this is the work of price that you  
believe that I am the son of God then  
the Jews took up stones again to stone  
him they hated him for this then Jesus  
answered them and said many good works  
have I shown you from My Father for  
which of these good works do you stone  
me I've done good I've released people  
from bondage I those who were deaf I  
made them here those who were blind I  
made them see those who were lame I made  
them walk those who were possessed by  
demons I released them I've done a lot  
of good among here why are you stoning  
me is it what what what good that are  
you stoning me for the Jews answered him  
saying  
for a good work we stone you not but for  
blasphemy we don't care about the good  
work we're gonna stone you for blasphemy  
and because that you being a man make  
yourself God and notice Christ didn't  
say oh I can say I was God I'm not God  
no he says Jesus answered them isn't it  
written in your law I said you are God's  
if he called them gods and to whom the  
Word of God came and the scripture  
cannot be broken say you of him who the  
father has sanctified and sent into the  
world you blaspheme because I said I am



the son of god then then Christ brings  
it to the works so okay you're having  
difficulty believing that I'm the son of  
God that the Creator would come into his  
creation I get it you're having  
difficulty with that okay if i do not  
the works of my father then don't  
believe me so so look at what i'm doing  
and if i can't do the works of the  
father then you're right not to believe  
me but if i do though you do not believe  
me believe the works look it's right in  
front of you that you may know and  
believe that the father is in me and I'm  
in he and I'm in him so so he's saying  
look look at the works you've got a look  
at the works and see that I am him i am  
the son of god therefore they sought  
again to take him but he escaped out of  
their hand so that's what Paul would  
have it well I'm sorry Luke would have  
in mind when or even Peter would have in  
mind when he's speaking to them like hey  
we're doing good and that's we're doing  
what price did Christ came and he did  
good and he blessed the people and  
that's what we're doing is that what  
you're examining us for and notice a  
Luke actually writes about this we  
covered last week how Luke is showing  
Theophilus that Paul is of the same  
ministry as Peter which is the same  
ministry as Christ and so we saw last  
week that they when they heard Paul  
speak or when the man hurt I'll speak  
that the lame man who steadfastly be  
holding him and perceiving that he had  
faith to be healed said with a loud  
voice he wasn't unser about this he  
confidently and loudly stand upright on  
thy feet and he'll eat and walk so the  
same miracle as Christ the same miracle  
as Peter here's Paul now taking this  
bondage away from this man who was lame

from birth and there came there and in dropping down to verse 19 of the same chapter then came the Jews then came there certain Jews from Antioch and Iconium who persuaded the people and they stoned Paul so he does good he blesses the people the people praise God because of the blessings and the Jews hated the people in authority hated and they stoned Paul the same way they tried to kill Christ the same way now they're persecuting Peter they see the works but they don't care about that they've got another agenda and they're inspired by another spirit and having stone Paul drew him out to the city supposing that he had been dead so they thought they killed him they wanted to kill Christ they're gonna kill Peter they actually are gonna kill Paul why they're doing good it's not like they're coming in here and doing horrible things they're their blessing the people and turning people to God and yet they must be killed continuing in an X 4 and verse 9 so he says you know if you're gonna examine I said the good deed done to the impotent matter if that's the issue and you want to know by what means he's made whole I can tell you and I'm going to tell you without apology be it known unto you all and to all the people of Israel you need to know this that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth whom you crucified whom God raised from the dead even by him does this man stand here before you whole so this is what's happened this same Jesus that you denied to the point of killing him he rose from the dead he's now in heaven and by his name and his authority that's how we made this manhole any other questions vista mini says this is the stone which was set at nothing of you builders which

is become the head  
of the corner you thought Christ was  
nothing you spat on him you used you had  
him the stripes a whipped and you had  
him crucified because you thought he was  
nothing and you know what he's been  
raised from the dead and now he's the  
chief Cornerstone he's the head of the  
corner and when he's when when Peter is  
saying this to them and and Luke is  
writing this to Theophilus it is ringing  
a bell because this is exactly what  
Jesus Christ said to them in luke 20  
Luke writes then began he to speak to  
the people this terrible so so Christ is  
going to say the very same thing that  
Peters quoting in fact Peter is quoting  
Christ and the people he began to speak  
to the people this parable a certain man  
that is God planted a vineyard and let  
it forth to husbandmen that's the Jews  
that people of Israel and went into a  
far country for a long time and at the  
season he sent a servant to the  
husbandmen that they should give him of  
the fruit of the vineyard but the  
husbandmen this is what they did they  
kind of forgot that this was on loan to  
them that this was seconded to them they  
felt that it's ours and so now when he's  
coming to get what's what's the the  
husbandmen is uh or when they the owner  
is coming to get of the fruit of the  
vineyard the husbandmen beat the servant  
and sent him away empty this is ours  
we're not going to give it up and again  
he sent another servant and they beat  
him also and treated him shamefully and  
sent him away empty and again the owner  
sent a third and they wounded him also  
and cast him out even though they are  
really custodians there their servants  
that this is not their vineyard they're  
just caretakers they've forgotten and

and they love this position of authority  
and they think that they know our cannot  
be removed that it's theirs well fully  
and completely and again he sent a third  
and they wounded him also and cast him  
out then said the lord of the vineyard  
what shall I do this is horrible what  
should I do I know I will  
and my beloved son it maybe they will  
reverence him when they see him but when  
the husbandmen saw him they didn't they  
didn't reference the day oh this is the  
Sun know when they saw him they reasoned  
among themselves this is how they  
reasoned this is the air so we've  
enjoyed this vineyard he sent servants  
to come and collect the fruit we're not  
going to share we're going to keep what  
what we believe is ours now he's sending  
the Sun and this is the reasoning that's  
taking place inside them inspired by the  
devil this is you know we wrestle not  
with flesh and blood but principalities  
this is inspired this is double thinking  
they're thinking wow this is the air  
come let us kill him let's get rid of  
him because if there's no air then  
there's nobody to take this from us let  
us kill him that the inheritance maybe  
hours so they cast him out of the  
vineyard and they killed him this is  
Christ predicting that they will crucify  
him because he came to die for mankind  
so they did kill him what they're for  
shall the lord of the vineyard do unto  
them so this is what Peter is harkening  
them back to that Christ taught them  
this what shall the lord of the vineyard  
are doing to them he shall come and  
destroy these husband men and then he  
shall give the vineyard to others so you  
Jews think that you're the special  
people and that this can never be taken  
from you but you know what is gonna be

weeping and gnashing of teeth when you are thrust out and others are brought in and so this is the message that Christ gave to them and when they heard it they said god forbid this is this is unthinkable that we Jews would be cast out this is god forbid this is impossible and he beheld them and said what is this then that is written so so now he's going to quote the Psalms so they say this is impossible and he says well why does the scripture say this then the stone which the builders rejected it the same is become the head of the corner so so he's using this parable of the vineyard but the owner of the vineyard will send his son is beloved son they killed the son because they've rejected him and God is saying I'm in Christ says to them you know what the vineyard is going to be taken away from you and it's going to be given to others and they say this is impossible so price quotes the scriptures and says well what does the scripture me what is this then that is written the stone which the builders rejected that stone has become the head of the corner whosoever shall fall upon that stone shall be broken so it's a mistake for you to go up against this stone whoever shall fall upon that stone shall be broken but it gets worse but upon whomsoever it shall fall it will grind him to powder and this we know from from the prophet Daniel but he speaks of this stone that when it comes in and strikes the image it grinds it to powder and the wind blows it away and there's no trace of it anymore until you've got to decide which side of the fence are you on are you on the enemy side against this special beloved son or are you on the Sun side because you're

in a dangerous place if you go up  
against the this this stone and the  
chief priests and the scribes that same  
hour sought to lay hands on him they've  
had enough of this they're in quite  
enjoying notices the chief priests and  
the scribes they're quite enjoying their  
position of authority they're not about  
to give it up for anybody and so they  
sought to lay hands on him but they  
feared the people for they perceived  
that he had spoken this parable against  
them so so they didn't want to act in  
accordance with the parable because then  
the people would see that they're guilty  
so they couldn't kill him right then and  
there now Christ was quoting psalm 118  
and I can't I don't for purpose of time  
I can't go through the whole song but  
they would be very familiar with the  
whole song and they would recollect when  
Christ says the zoo how is it written  
then the stone that the builder refused  
has become the the head of the corner  
they would then have the whole  
and they would know everything that's in  
that song but look now beginning in  
verse 17 we're in so they want to kill  
him and he's quoting psalm 118 and he  
said in psalm 118 David prophesized  
about Christ I shall not die but live in  
other words you'll kill me I'm coming  
back to life I shall not die but live  
and declare the works of the Lord the  
Lord has chastened me sore this is this  
was the purpose the lamb has come into  
the world to be chasing but he has not  
given me over unto death and again  
another prophecy david says that he will  
not suffer his salted to be corrupt in  
the grave he has not given me over to  
death open to me the gates of  
righteousness I will go into them and I  
will praise the Lord so it's impossible

to kill the beloved son and have for him  
to stay in the grave this gate of the  
lord that is christ into which the  
righteous shall enter so there is no  
other name by which men may be saved we  
all must come through the gate which is  
Christ and this is what's meant that he  
has become the head of the corner they  
despised them they thought he was  
nothing he has become that name that is  
exalted above all names every knee shall  
bow to Jesus Christ and no one shall  
enter the kingdom without coming through  
Christ there is no other name by which  
men may be saved so this gate of the  
Lord Christ into which the righteous  
shall enter I will praise thee for you  
have heard me and have become my  
salvation the stone which the builders  
refused is become the headstone of the  
corner this is the Lord's doing it is  
marvelous in our eyes so Christ is  
referring back to this song which they  
would be very familiar with peter is  
referring back to Christ who is  
referring back to this song so again  
you've got to decide which side are you  
want are you with the Lord or are you  
against the law because we're telling  
you the power that healed this man is  
the power of Jesus Christ and you have  
to now decide do you believe he is the  
son of God  
and if you don't believe that look at  
the works and believe this for the works  
sake going back to ask for here it is  
neither is there salvation in any other  
it is impossible don't believe anybody  
that comes along and says there's some  
other way to God there's some other way  
to salvation no it's impossible there's  
only one way Jesus Christ is the door  
and there's no other way to god there's  
no other way to the kingdom except

through Christ neither is there  
salvation in any other for there is no  
other name under heaven given among men  
whereby we must be saved none he is the  
creator he has come into his creation  
this was foretold from the beginning he  
is the Lamb that slain from the  
foundation of the earth all of this is  
by design and we must accept him as our  
personal Savior in order to be saved now  
when they saw the boldness of Peter and  
John and they perceive that they were  
unlearned an ignorant men they marveled  
this is unbelievable you know usually  
when we show up when we show up as the  
authorities and we flex our muscles  
people back down highly educated people  
back down and here are these people that  
are not educated they're unlearned  
they're ignorant men and yet they are  
both they will not back down this is  
incredible and they took knowledge of  
them that they had been with Jesus  
indeed they had so they remember that  
these were Jesus's disciples but it's  
not they don't they only have half the  
story yeah they had been with Jesus they  
don't know the half of the story because  
what we know is that they were with  
Jesus for 40 days after hit after his  
resurrection he taught them personally  
for 40 days and so they were well  
learned men by the end of that 40-day  
intimate period with Christ and and they  
were given power so going back to ax 1  
remember it says to them you shall  
receive power so these men were you know  
they come to shut this down and they  
cannot shut it down Peter and John are  
bold and then there  
marbling of those old pneus well the  
boldness is coming from Pentecost  
because Christ said to them stay in  
Jerusalem and you shall receive power



after that the Holy Spirit has come upon you and you shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem and in all Judea you're going to be the witnesses of my resurrection you're going to be the witnesses that I am the son of god you're going to be the witnesses that I am coming back as the king of Israel and you shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem and in all Judea and in Samaria and smears were the Israel so the Jews are in Jerusalem and Judea the Israel most of Israel is in Samaria and unto the uttermost parts of the earth where where Israel has been scattered and the rest and the Gentiles are so this is a message for everybody and it's going to require boldness it's going to require courage it's going to require conviction to preach this message and that's going to require the Holy Spirit and that's what the day of Pentecost was all about and remember on the day of Pentecost on each of them there appeared cloven tongues like as of fire and it SAT upon each of them and I think we really focus on the tongues which was this gift of languages so that they could speak to all these Jews in different languages very clearly and preach the gospel to them but I think we missed the fire this represents the boldness that this is unstoppable and there's no authority that those who are empowered by the Holy Spirit are going to back down and beholding the man to go back to barracks x 4 + 14 and beholding the man which was healed standing with them so so there he is he's he's right there this is a man that has been lame from birth everybody knows him everybody perhaps has given him some money to help him along and there he is right beside them probably with stronger legs that

they have and could probably jump higher than they can there he is and beholding the man which was healed standing with them they could say nothing against it this truly is a miracle and and this is from God and they cannot say anything against it but verse 15 they had commanded them to go aside out of the council the god of the council and they conferred among themselves so they're confused they have no idea what they should do about this situation because everybody can see that clearly a miracle has happened that God is involved here the man is praising God he's leaping he's just overjoyed with what God has done for it and there he is right there it's not like we made this up and the man's gone and there's no real evidence he's right there so they commanded him to go outside of the council so that they could speak privately and then when they're saying privately the saying and again this is the parable at Christ said they've got the vineyard but they don't own it there is an owner of the vineyard who wants the fruit of it and they don't want to share they love being the owners this is the air let's kill him oh he's back in the form of Peter and John we thought we got rid of him now Peter and John are saying no he lives so what shall we do to these men for that indeed a notable miracle has been done by them is manifest to all them that dwell in Jerusalem so yes this man has been healed and yes God has acted so we're not gonna argue that we know this is like wow I mean does it can you get more evil than this to know that God has acted and to then say I to know that the people know that God has acted but still you don't want to come along you want to

resist this so it's obvious to everybody in Jerusalem and we can't deny it it really is the miracle of God but that it spread no further among the people let us straightly threaten them that they speak henceforth to no man in this name so we don't dispute that this is a miracle from God they told us in fact they told us that it's in the nitty by what authority needed to do this we did it in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth who you crucified oh okay well we don't want this spreading any further because that could jeopardize our position so that it spread no further among the people let us straightly threaten them that they speak no more to any man in this name and they called them back in so Peter and John come back they call them in and they commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus okay we know you've got something going on we know that Jesus must be from God clearly the man is right there with you you know what we don't hear any more about this it could jeopardize our Authority in the vineyard but again the power of Pentecost this is all about the power of Pentecost the power of the Holy Spirit but Peter and John answered and said unto them whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God you judge so you know I think we're all familiar with this scripture and I think we can all quote it but remember what is that issue here is the resurrection of Jesus Christ this is what they can't stand this is what they're taking issue with that it grieve them that Peter and John were preaching that Jesus Christ rose from the dead and they don't want to hear this and this is what's at issue this is the command what

what Satan hates and I think we make the mistake of thinking that the Jews are our enemies the Jews are the enemies of the Christians because they were the early persecutors of the Christians or the Romans are the enemies of the Christians the scripture tells us that we wrestle not against flesh and blood this is not about human beings we have to see through the human being and see what's behind the human being and what's behind these men is the devil is demonic influence principalities and powers and so what we need to see is Oh what Satan has an issue with is the resurrection of Jesus Christ and he's going to use political correctness because that's what we're facing here he right here are those in power and they're saying okay we want some political correctness here we don't want you preaching the resurrection

Christ and Christians cannot be politically correct because being politically correct means to be become a liar and what Peter and John are saying here is you judge you know what you're threatening us that we shouldn't preach the resurrection of Christ we can't go along with that for we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard in other words take your political correctness with you we don't care we will not be threatened we will not back down and I think brethren that we are coming into a time when we have to decide will we cave in to political correctness because again our enemy is not the Jew our enemy is not the Roman and today what the biggest issue for Christians today that I can see is Islam it is this global phenomenon it's an ideology that's spreading all over the world and they say here they're very

clear they want Sharia law to dominate the world and of course if you know anything about Sharia law it denies the resurrection of Jesus Christ and it grieves them that anyone would preach the resurrection of Christ and in fact the worst sin that anybody can commit is shirk which is to associate anybody with God so to say that Jesus Christ is the son of God that he was crucified that he was buried for three days and three nights in the grave and that he rose from the dead this is the greatest sin there is no greater sin than this and Sharia law says don't do this do not preach this and do we have this kind of backbone to say that we cannot help but preach the gospel and there is something as this is lamphun islamic phenomenon is spreading through the world we have to be aware of what's what what raymond ibrahim ibrahim calls the rule of numbers of his lab and that is he very carefully in this book that he's written which i would highly recommend crucified again exposing islam's new war on christians we don't see it yet in north america because muslims are a very small percentage of the population and he shows this basically three phases of Islam when they're small in number you don't hear from them as they get greater in number maybe you begin to hear the begin to vocalize their descent and begin you begin to see all kinds of disruption and you're beginning to see that in France and other parts of Europe UK once they become thirty-five forty fifty percent of the population Christians and Jews are targeted hunted down churches are burned Christian homes are burned it is just horrible for Christians and he goes country by country in this book and shows what's

happening to Christians around the world  
and so as this phenomenon spreads we  
need to decide do we just have a  
wishbone or do we have backbone you know  
can we stand up for the gospel of Christ  
and do we counter the blessing if we are  
persecuted for Christ I think far too  
many Christians love comfort they love  
convenience we're really Christians in  
name we don't actually want to pay  
anything for this for this truth that we  
have and again our enemy is not the Jew  
our enemy is not the Roman our enemy is  
not the Muslim and I think too many  
Christians are afraid of Muslims when we  
should be loving Muslims Muslims are  
people just like you and I they've just  
been given an ideology that it's false  
and we need to engage them we need to  
engage them with the scriptures we need  
to be knowledgeable of their scriptures  
the Koran we need to know the hadith we  
need to know that the the syrup the  
sooner the hadith and the Syria the  
biography of ma of their profit and we  
need to engage them in and talk to them  
and show them the gospel you know you  
you cannot the mistake that we're making  
us we're trying to beat this Islamic  
ideology that this war on terror with  
bombs and bullets bombs and bullets will  
never succeed the more we use bombs and  
bullets the more Sharia will dominate  
the world what we have and the way to  
defeat this is the gospel we have the  
truth and we need to sit down with  
Muslim  
in a loving manner and say let's talk  
about God and let's talk about Jesus  
Christ because we know you believe in  
Jesus Christ but you believe he's just a  
man we believe he's the son of the  
Living God and we want to show you from  
the scriptures we want to engage you

with your scriptures and let's talk and Daniel says those that turn many to righteousness shall shine as the stars in heaven and that is that is exactly what's at issue here that political correctness is protecting Islam that it's a sort of a protected ideology but Islam when you look at their source documents is against the gospel and it forbids the preaching of the gospel and so we need to engage and we need to say brother you know we love you and we're concerned that you have a doctrine that just not true so let's talk let's examine the scriptures and this is the kind of boldness that we must have and we don't bow to political correctness why because we have the truth for we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard and this is the whole purpose of the Holy Spirit that the witness would be would be preached that the truth of God the gospel would be preached so when they had further threatened them they let them go finding nothing how they might punish them they were again we have to be harmless as doves wise as serpents and these men were Christians they did nothing wrong they were just blessing people and sharing the truth so there was nothing that they so that's why Peter says if you suffer as a murderer or is a thief or as a busybody and men's affairs that's on you so we have to conduct ourselves in such a way that if we suffer the only reason we're suffering is because we're Christians because we are obeying the command of God God says go and preach this gospel to the uttermost ends of the earth regardless of what political correctness mates we may say go and be my witnesses and so we're doing this and if we suffer for

preaching the gospel we rejoice that that by the will of almighty god we've been selected for this so that we could be faithful witnesses

but if in that process we find ourselves lying killing people being busy bodies and men's affairs and then they punish us for these things God is saying that's got nothing to do with me so we have to govern ourselves like these men in such a way that there's nothing to punish us for but so finding nothing how they might punish them because of the people for all men glorified God for that which was done can you believe this that because of the work of Jesus Christ men are turning to God and they're glorifying God and these men and power are unhappy they don't like this they want men to glorify them not God for the man was above 40 years old on whom this miracle of healing was shown so this is the man that has suffered for four decades and he's released from this bondage and the people are praising God and these are these chief scribes and Pharisees and Sadducees high priest and the Kindred of the high priest are all upset and being let go so they've been released what did they do they went to their own company so now that the church is 5,000 men I don't know maybe it's ten or fifteen thousand people when they're released they go straight back to their congregation and they reported everything that the chief priests and the elders had said unto them so in detail this is what happened in detail this is what they've threatened us with this is what they're going to do to us if we continue to preach Jesus so they go back to their congregation and they share the threats with the congregation this is what happened we've been warned



if we open our mouths and even mention the name of Jesus again here's what's going to happen to us and when the congregation heard this they lifted up their voice to God with one Accord they weren't confused they weren't divided they weren't of different opinions oh you know what maybe we need to back off on this Jesus thing or you know maybe we can talk about Jesus but let's not talk about the rest

I mean that's pretty you know to be resurrected from the dead who's going to believe that you know maybe we shouldn't talk no we know what happened and we know that Jesus Christ is the son of God and we know that we've been selected hand-picked to preach this gospel so when they come back to the congregation and they say look here's what's going to happen to us if we continue to preach this gospel the congregation heard it and they lifted up their voice to God with one Accord not confused and here's what they said Lord you are God not these men you are God which made heaven and earth you're in complete control and the sea and all that in name is who by the mouth of your servant David have said why did the heathen rage and the people imagine vain things so it's quoting now Psalm 2 why did the heathen rage and the people imagine vain things that kings of the earth stood up and the rulers were gathered together against the Lord and against his Christ so those in power want to hold on to their power as long as possible and these are some pretty powerful people kings and rulers they gather together in a confederacy in a conspiracy to deny Christ's rightful rulers of the earth for of a truth against your Holy Child Jesus whom you have anointed both Herod and Pontius

Pilate with the Gentiles and the people of Israel were gathered together this is amazing both Gentile and you are in agreement and the rulers are in agreement against Christ for to do whatever whatsoever your hand on your counsel determined before to be done so they're quoting here from Psalm 2 which is a short song so we can just quickly read it why do the heathen rage so this is you know Joe the Peter quoted Joel that says that the prophecy of Joel is now unfolding in front of your eyes here he's quoting David to show that the prophecy of David is now in building before our eyes but that's just the beginning this is yet to be fulfilled that the heathen are going to rage and the people are going to imagine a vain thing they're not going to this gospel must be preached but they're not going to accept it they're going to have their own ideas of what the future is going to be like and how they're always going to be in power and so they're going to imagine a vain thing and because of this vain thing they're going to rage against Christ they're going to hate Christ and they're going to hate Christians as a result the kings of the earth set themselves they've set themselves and the rulers take counsel together they've got a book they've got counsel they've got something that sounds like wisdom it's not just like hey we're aware of the devil and we're going to fight the people of God know they've got something that makes it sound like they're of the people of God this is what God wants and Christians people who believe in Christ they're the enemy there of the devil they must be put to death we've got council come let's counsel together and do what our

holy book tells us to do they they take  
counsel together against the Lord and  
against his anointed saying let us break  
their bands asunder and cast away their  
cords from us we don't want to see that  
we want to completely expunge them we  
want to exterminate them we want to  
destroy them he that sits in the heavens  
and this is what they're recording when  
they said nor new God you made the  
heavens and the earth and the sea and  
everything that's in them he that sits  
in the heavens shall laugh yes you're  
gonna have your time God is going to  
give you some rope so that you can hang  
yourself but he's also going to bring  
the gospel to you so that you have a  
chance to repent and come to Christ he  
that sits in the heavens shall live this  
is in other words what are you doing you  
can't resist the will of God what he  
doing he shall love the Lord shall have  
them in derision as powerful as they are  
all these kings of the earth are going  
to gather they're going to come together  
in a united front and God's just gonna  
laugh and have them in derision then  
shall he speak unto them in his wrath so  
he's going to act and vex them in his  
sore displeasure yet have I set  
King upon my holy hill inza of Zion I  
will declare the to create the Lord has  
sent to me you are my son Jesus is the  
Son of the Living God this day have I  
begotten you ask of me and I will give  
you the heathen for your inheritance so  
the whole world is going to come unto  
Christ and all the kingdoms are going to  
that that Satan has given to these  
people it's going to be taken away from  
them and it's going to be given to  
Christ asking me and i shall give you of  
the heathen for your inheritance and the  
uttermost parts of the earth for your

possession and the gospel will go to the  
uttermost parts of the earth and  
everybody will have been warned and  
everybody has a choice to make around  
Jesus Christ the issue of our time is  
Jesus Christ will you accept him or not  
and so Jesus Christ will be preached to  
the whole earth and eventually  
everything is going to come for his  
possession you shall break them with a  
rod of iron and that's what they need  
they're not going to respond to anything  
else they're going to be so hard-hearted  
that it's not until a rod of iron comes  
to break them you shall dash them in  
pieces like a Potter's vessel again it  
speaks to the other song that when this  
stone falls on you it will grind you to  
Dust and the dust will be blown away  
be wise now therefore o you kings you're  
going to get this gospel preached to you  
you need to listen and now is your  
chance to be wise don't be on the wrong  
side of God as powerful as you think you  
are as wonderful as you think your  
council is repent and come to Christ be  
why is now therefore o you Kings be  
instructed you judges of the earth serve  
the Lord with fear and rejoice with  
trembling stop it whatever nonsense you  
have going on stop just stop and come to  
Christ read the scriptures embrace the  
scriptures and fear God kiss the son  
come have an intimate relationship with  
Jesus Christ he longs to be in an  
intimate relationship with you come kiss  
the son lest he be angry  
there's a period of time he's giving you  
space to repent repent doesn't matter  
how powerful you think you are repent  
kiss the son lest he be angry and you  
perish from the way when his wrath is  
kindled but a little blessed it our all  
day that put their trust in him and that

is what the disciples are doing their  
they're hearing the message and they're  
putting their trust in him and they're  
realizing we don't we don't respond to  
political threats we just don't respond  
because God is the God of heaven is our  
God and we put our trust in him as our  
faithful creator here in John 15 Christ  
says to us you haven't chosen me we  
didn't choose Christ he chose us we  
didn't choose him he chose us and he's  
ordained us that we should go and bring  
forth fruit in other words we must go  
and preach the gospel and convert people  
to Christ that's the fruit and that our  
fruit should remain those that turn many  
to righteousness shall shine as the  
stars of heaven that whatsoever you  
shall ask of the Father in my name he  
will give it to you so as we're doing  
this preaching of the gospel of Jesus  
Christ this witness what we need in in  
the process of doing that he'll give it  
to us and so what we're seeing now is  
this church this early church asking God  
for what they need so they stop that the  
Apostles come and say look this is how  
we've been threatened and Christ tells  
them whatever you ask of me in my  
father's name he'll give it to you  
because he wants you to bear fruit these  
things I command you that you love one  
another if the world hates you you know  
that it hated me before it hated you if  
you were of the world the world would  
love his own but because you're not of  
the world but I've chosen you out of the  
world therefore the world hates you so  
again it's not flesh and blood it's this  
Prince of the power of this world Prince  
of the power of the air the god of this  
world he's the one that hates Christ and  
we're just caught in the crossfire  
because Christ has chosen us remember

the word

I said unto you the servant is not greater than his Lord if they persecuted me they will persecute you we cannot escape these scriptures the hated Christ they persecuted Christ he's chosen us to represent him if they hated him they're going to hate us if they persecuted him they're going to persecute us if they have kept my saying they will keep yours also so there will be people who will turn to Christ we need to bring the gospel to them so that they will keep but God has selected first fruits from every nation we can't be fearful we must take the gospel to them but all these things will they do unto you for my name's sake it's not anything you've done it's because they hate Christ make sure you're not suffering as a murderer as a lawyer or a thief or a busybody you just preach the gospel and if they do these things on tears because they hate me because they know not him that sent me so they don't know the father they don't know God if I had not come and spoken unto them they had not sinned but now they have no cloak for their sin they there's no hiding they hate Christ they hate the father this is what this this whole process is revealing the heart of man either we will repent and kiss the son and come to him or we're gonna harden our hearts and we're going to go up against him but Christ is the the flashpoint it's all about Christ and every human being now has to decide where do they stand with respect to Jesus Christ he that hates me hates my father also if I had not done among them the works which no other man did they wouldn't have had sinned but now have they both seen and hated both me and my father so because of these

works they know that God is behind him  
and yet they still hate him yet they  
still crucified him Peter comes along  
does the same word Peter and John and  
the Apostles including Paul come and do  
the same thing and yet they hate them  
even though they see that God is with  
them that's yes God is with you we still  
hate you because you're taking our  
Authority

authority away from us but now they have  
both seen and hated both me and my  
father but this comes to pass and Christ  
is telling us this comes to pass that  
the word might be fulfilled that is  
written in their law they hated me  
without a cause that's what this is all  
about that a judgment is coming Satan is  
going to be judged and he's going to be  
found that his that he's gonna be found  
guilty and those that follow him are  
going to have to admit there was no  
reason to hate Jesus Christ there's  
nothing that Christ did that he should  
be hated but they hated him without a  
cause and they hated his people without  
a cause that's why we mustn't suffer as  
a murderer as a thief as a liar as a  
busybody but if we suffer as Christians  
up it's fulfilling the scripture that  
they hated Christ without a cause and  
he's of course quoting the Psalms let  
not them that are my enemies wrongfully  
rejoice over me neither let them wink  
the eye that hate me without a cause and  
so coming back to acts four and now Lord  
here's the the disciples behold their  
threatenings look look what they're  
threatening so they've been shared in  
detail well Peter and John have shared  
with the congregation here's what they  
said they're going to do to us and so  
the congregation heard and they turned  
to God and they quoted Psalm 2 and said

god you're in control the heathen are going to rage the Kings are going to rage those in authority gonna rage against Christ but you're in control and we trust you as our faithful creator and now Lord behold their threatenings and remember Christ said whatever you ask in my name he'll give it to you so what are we asking for what is it we should be asking for well here's the example this is what we asked for in the name of Christ grant unto your servants that with all boldness they may speak your word this is amazing so when they come back to the congregation the congregation doesn't discourage them the congregation says you know you better be careful we don't we don't really want trouble you shouldn't preach that stuff you know maybe you could just kind of agree with them that Jesus is kind of a nice guy and maybe you don't need to talk about the resurrection so much these are faithful brethren and when the Apostles come and say look this is how we've been threatened they turn to God and they ask God can you please in view the apostles with old that they can take this truth of the gospel back out regardless of the threatenings behold their threatenings and this is what we ask you for so that we can bear fruit in your name that with all boldness they may speak your word by stretching forth your hand to heal and that by signs and wonders may be done by the name of your Holy Child Child Jesus in other words Jesus wants these works to be done so that it's undeniable that God is working through the apostles and when they had prayed the place was shaken where they were assembled together and they were all filled with the holy spirit and they spoke the Word



of God with boldness in other words the prayer was answered Christ said ask and you'll receive that it's God's will that you bear fruit and that your fruit remain so whatever you need is your fulfilling my commandment make sure your loving one another so clearly you see they were all in one Accord they loved one another and asked what you need and what they needed what they perceive they needed and in the face of these threatenings was boldness let's replace our wish phone with a backbone if we are Christians we are called for a purpose we cannot deny this purpose so what we need is the power of the Holy Spirit and that's what the book of Acts is all about it's showing us how the Holy Spirit takes these ordinary men and empowers them just to speak an extraordinary truth and so we'll stop here and we'll continue we're kind of moving into a next section now which is Ananias and Sapphira we're going to cover that and again that has everything to do with the Holy Spirit this is all about Pentecost and the Holy Spirit coming down into the church empowering the church to do these miracles to preach this truth to have this love in this unity and now we're going to see Ananias and Sapphira into the mix and we'll see what all of that means with respect to the Holy Spirit so certainly I hope that you've enjoyed the study tonight I certainly have I'm just so inspired when I read this and certainly our world is changing and the world needs Jesus Christ more than ever and in each of the truth of the gospel more than ever and that means it needs men and women and youth who believe so strongly in the resurrection from the dead and

that Jesus Christ is the firstborn from  
the dead and we will not fear what men  
can do unto us and again Luke recorded  
that but don't fear what man can do unto  
us we fear God because the worst they  
can do is kill this body and then you  
know what we'll be back the same way  
that Christ rose from the dead we will  
rise oh what a beautiful truth we have  
I'm going to I'm going to stop here now  
I'm going to go to the chat at cgi org  
slash webcast I look forward to talking  
to you there and look forward to seeing  
you again next week God willing god  
bless you