

Acts 5:22-42 2026 – APOSTLES ON TRIAL AGAIN; GAMALIEL'S ADVICE; SUFFERING FOR HIS NAME SAKE

6/27/26 – Sat. Morn. Prayer - P. Twente, 714 425-9221; ptwente@gmail.com <https://www.ptwente.com>

ACTS 5:19-21 [19] But at night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out, and said, [20] "Go, stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this life." [21] And when they heard that, they entered the temple early in the morning and taught. But the high priest and those with him came and called the council together, with all the elders of the children of Israel, and sent to the prison to have them brought.

ACTS 5:22-42:

Act 5:22 But when the officers came and did not find them in the prison, they returned and reported, [23] saying, "Indeed we found the prison shut securely, and the guards standing outside before the doors; but when we opened them, we found no one inside!" [24] Now when the high priest, the captain of the temple, and the chief priests heard these things, they wondered what the outcome would be. [25] So one came and told them, saying, "Look, the men whom you put in prison are standing in the temple and teaching the people!" [26] Then the captain went with the officers and brought them without violence, for they feared the people, lest they should be stoned. [27] And when they had brought them, they set them before the council. And the high priest asked them, [28] saying, "Did we not strictly command you not to teach in this name? And look, you have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, and intend to bring this Man's blood on us!" [29] But Peter and the other apostles answered and said: "We ought to obey God rather than men.

[30] The God of our fathers raised up Jesus whom you murdered by hanging on a tree. [31] Him God has exalted to His right hand to be Prince and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. [32] And we are His witnesses to these things, and so also is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey Him." [33] When they heard this, they were furious and plotted to kill them. [34] Then one in the council stood up, a Pharisee named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law held in respect by all the people, and commanded them to put the apostles outside for a little while. [35] And he said to them: "Men of Israel, take heed to yourselves what you intend to do regarding these men.

[36] For some time ago Theudas rose up, claiming to be somebody. A number of men, about four hundred, joined him. He was slain, and all who obeyed him were scattered and came to nothing. [37] After this man, Judas of Galilee rose up in the days of the census, and drew away many people after him. He also perished, and all who obeyed him were dispersed.

[38] And now I say to you, keep away from these men and let them alone; for if this plan or this work is of men, it will come to nothing; [39] but if it is of God, you cannot overthrow it—lest you even be found to fight against God." [40] And they agreed with

him, and when they had called for the apostles and beaten them, they commanded that they should not speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go.

[41] So they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for His name. [42] And daily in the temple, and in every house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.

SUMMARY: WHAT HAPPENS WHEN PEOPLE PRAY? - Acts 4:23-37 – A great example of prayer/praying for us! Persecution has always threatened the church since its beginning. But we need not fear for its survival.

Tertullian, addressing the rulers of the Roman Empire, cried out: “Kill us, torture us, condemn us, grind us to dust...The more you mow us down, the more we grow; the seed is the blood of Christians.”

Or as Bishop Fest Kivengere said in February 1979, on the second anniversary of the martyrdom of Archbishop Janani Luwum of Uganda: “Without bleeding the church fails to bless.” Persecution will refine the church but not destroy it. If it leads to prayer and praise, to an acknowledgment of the sovereignty of God and of solidarity with Christ in His sufferings, then, however painful, it may even be welcome!

PRAY TODAY FOR: *(1Ti 2:1-4) Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, [2] for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. [3] For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, [4] who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.*

(Gen 19:29) And it came to pass, when God destroyed the cities of the plain, that God remembered Abraham, and sent Lot out of the midst of the overthrow, when He overthrew the cities in which Lot had dwelt.

QUESTIONS TO PONDER:

1. How effective is your prayer life?
2. Is prayer your first resource or your last resort?
3. Would you like to see great power of God in these last days?
4. What do we need to do?