

## **THE MINISTRY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**

*Doctrine and Duty for Disciples Series*

Acts of the Apostles

### **Sanhedrin Judged by the Holy Spirit**

**Acts 4:1-12**

#### **Arrested**

**4** Now as they spoke to the people, the priests, the captain of the temple, and the Sadducees came upon them, <sup>2</sup> being greatly disturbed that they taught the people and preached in Jesus the resurrection from the dead. <sup>3</sup> And they laid hands on them, and put *them* in custody until the next day, for it was already evening. <sup>4</sup> However, many of those who heard the word believed; and the number of the men came to be about five thousand.

#### **Peter's Defense**

<sup>5</sup> And it came to pass, on the next day, that their rulers, elders, and scribes, <sup>6</sup> as well as Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and as many as were of the family of the high priest, were gathered together at Jerusalem. <sup>7</sup> And when they had set them in the midst, they asked, "By what power or by what name have you done this?"

<sup>8</sup> Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders of Israel: <sup>9</sup> If we this day are judged for a good deed *done* to a helpless man, by what means he has been made well, <sup>10</sup> let it be known to you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by Him this man stands here before you whole. <sup>11</sup> This is the 'stone which was rejected by you builders, which has become the chief cornerstone.' <sup>12</sup> Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

1. Through the power of Holy Spirit what was Peter and John able to accomplish?
2. Why was Peter and John arrested?
3. What can you learn about Peter in his response to the Sanhedrin?
4. We know John was with Peter however it does not mention what he is doing. What do you think John was doing while Peter was speaking?
5. Read Psalm 118:22 and v. 11.
  - Who is the *stone*?
  - Who are the *builders*?
  - What is a *chief cornerstone*?
6. Imagine how Peter responded.
  - Was he bold or timid? How is he able to do that?
  - Do you think he was worried about their reaction or the consequences he may face?
  - Do you have the Holy Spirit? If so, has it changed you to be bold for Christ? Why or why not?
  - Will you be able to give a defense for Christ?