

# CHAPTER 25.6

# ACTS

“POWER OF THE NAME”  
Acts 4:1-22  
January 15, 2017

## I. Crowd Noise

### A. Divided

1. Excitement (21)
2. Commitment (4)
3. Annoyed (2)

### B. Don't listen to the crowd. Look to Jesus. (19-20)

## II. Salvation is only in Jesus. (5-12)

### A. Two Questions (7)

1. By what power ?
2. By what authority ?

### B. One Answer: the Name of Jesus (8-10)

### C. Rejected by men. Appointed by God. (11)

### D. Salvation in no one else. No other name. (12)

Jesus is God's only plan for salvation!

## III. Life in Jesus (13-22)

### A) Boldness

### B) Singular life purpose is Jesus. (19-20)

**How does this apply to me?**

# NEXT WEEK

“POWER OF PRAYER”  
Acts 4:23-41

## **Passage Overview:**

The first arrest of believers had just taken place. Peter and John had been held overnight before being interrogated by the religious elite. Imagine the nervousness that could have crept in among the believers. Peter and John were two of Jesus' inner circle of three disciples. Their arrest would naturally send shock waves throughout the infant, expanding church in Jerusalem.

Upon their release, they reported to the others all that had happened. They ended by telling them that just before their release, an injunction had been laid against them that they no longer speak in Jesus' name. With threats of severe repercussions were they to continue to teach in Jesus' name, they had been let go.

The believers went straight to prayer. They didn't debate what to do next. They didn't develop evacuation plans. They prayed. Their prayer began by focusing on God's sovereign creative authority. They recognized that what was prophesied in scripture concerning world leaders who gathered against the Lord is exactly what they were experiencing. Yet they saw His hand at work, masterfully accomplishing His own plan even through these egotistical self-aggrandizing leaders who opposed Him and them.

Then, in light of His sovereign power, they petitioned Him. But they didn't ask for protection. Nor did they ask that He hide them safely away. Instead, they asked for boldness to speak the word. They longed to see the power of Jesus working through them.

As they prayed the place where they had gathered was shaken. Much like the day of Pentecost, the Spirit's filling shook them and everything around them. And the outcome? They continued to speak the word of God with boldness. Confident prayer in crisis situations accesses the power of the Spirit, emboldening God's people to witness without fear.

**Reading for Next Week:** Acts 4:23-41