

BIBLE STUDY – ACTS Chapter 4

Read 4:1-37

Throughout this reading Peter and John will be confronted by the members of the Sanhedrin. The Sanhedrin was made up of seventy (or seventy-two) rulers, elders, and teachers of the law. The rulers were those who supervised the temple with its priests and administered the temple treasury. The elders were laymen of mature age, respected for their piety and wisdom. In the gospels they are usually mentioned last and may have been the least influential. Many of these were Pharisees. The teachers of the law were professional interpreters of the Scriptures. Many of these, also, were Pharisees.

The Sadducees were very liberal when it came to religion. They did not believe in life after death or in angels. They were, however, conservative in political matters. They were satisfied with things as they were under Roman rule, and they did not want any preaching that might in any way disturb the status quo. That was why they had conspired against Jesus. (PBC)

1. The Sadducees and were members of the Sanhedrin, the supreme Jewish court. Though small in number, they were powerful and influential because the family of the high priest and a number of other priests belonged to their group. They were perfect tools for Satan. (LL)

Who are some individuals or groups that could be labeled as “tools for Satan?”

2. Look again verses 3-4. What happens when God’s Word is shared?
3. In verses 8-11 Peter again gives evidence of being a bold witness. What are his tools?
4. Look again at verse 13. How is that such powerful statement? How can that be said about us?
5. Look again at verses 18-20. How are these verses empowering and a guide for us?
6. Look again at verses 23-31. What are some prayer examples these early Christians give us in these verses?
7. Look again at verses 32-37. What are some things we can learn from these verses?