

ACTS

CHAPTER 5:17-42

MEDIA REFERENCE NUMBER SMX 165

TITLE:

“ GAINING COURAGE ”

THEME:

Acts 1:8

“But you shall receive **power** when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and “**you shall be witnesses to Me**” in **Jerusalem**, and in all **Judea** and **Samaria**, and to the **end of the earth.**“

In these Early Days of the Church *many wonderful things are taking place, People are coming out to hear the word of God, salvation is coming to thousands and the church is growing.*

“ a church **persecuted**, is a church **pure**, a church pure is a church **powerful** ”

Though growth is visible, and promised in scripture, Holiness is His Desire!

You can Monitor Holiness / *Purity in your life...* by **How much you desire the presence of God in your life!**

Hebrews 12:14

Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord:

1 John 3:2-3

... we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him *as He is*. :3 And everyone who has this hope in Him, purifies himself, just as He is pure.

Jesus was Watching over His church with a loving Eye

Ephesians 5:25-27

Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, :26 that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, :27 that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.

A.) The Council: *Attacking the Truth vv. 17-28*

Verse 17

Then (because of verses 12-16) the high priest **rose up**, (to stand against) and all those who were with him (which is the sect of the Sadducees), and they were filled with **indignation**, (Jealous rage)

The Issue or Irritant to the Sadducees *was the Fact that;*
#1 Jesus had successfully passed the baton of ministry to His disciples.
#2 That the doctrine was spreading like wildfire
#3 was the fact that Jesus had risen from the dead.

The resurrection is THE SINGLE MOST greatest event in human history.
If you doubt that... you stand against the Evidence

What if I were to produce for you a collection of 66 books, written by 40 different authors, spanning thousands of years' time (history as well as 1/3 of its content prophetic) and each book detailing various events of my life...

• Where I was to be born, • That angels would announce my birth • What would be my name, • My occupation, • The words that I would speak and the fact that I would • Preach good tidings unto the meek; • To bind up the brokenhearted, • To proclaim liberty to the captives, • To give sight to the blind....

They Willfully Rejected The Evidence

The Sadducees had religion down, It's Jesus that they had missed.

John 5:39

You diligently study the Scriptures because you think that by them you possess eternal life. These are the Scriptures that testify (cry out, herald forth) about me,

The Sadducees held to a philosophy that God did exist, but He was too far removed and unknowable,

denying the supernatural world of

• Divine Intervention, • Angel Beings • Resurrection.

Colossians 2:8

Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ.

Verse 18-21

“speak to them all the words of **this Life**”

The Ministry of Angels

Hebrews 1:14

Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation?

Matthew 18:10

"Take heed that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that in heaven their angels always see the face of My Father who is in heaven.

Verse 22-28

Because of your commitment, your doctrine, your love, your caring, your peace, your unity among each other...

Just makes us sick !!!

B.) The Apostles: *Affirming the Truth*

vv. 29-32

Verse 29-31

The Genealogy of a Sadducee

John 8:42-45

Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love Me, for I proceeded forth and came from God; nor have I come of Myself, but He sent Me. :43 "Why do you not understand My speech? Because you are not able to listen to My word. :44 "You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it. :45 "But because I tell the truth, you do not believe Me.

Verse 32

Obey	GRK	To respond towards, To move closer to, To act upon what is known.
-------------	------------	--

What is implied, is that salvation is available to all, if they would only • Act upon what is known. • move closer to. • respond towards,

So Respond Already !!!

Isaiah 1:18

"Come now, and let us reason (argue) together," says the LORD, "Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall be as wool.

Psalm 32:9

Do not be like the horse or the mule, which have no understanding but must be controlled by bit and bridle or they will not come to you.

C.) Gamaliel: *Avoiding the Truth*

vv. 33-39

It has been said that the True Church of Jesus Christ is found in two ways,
The Church Triumphant (in Heaven), and the Church Militant (on earth)

Conviction causes each of us to react differently...

John 16:7-11

"Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you. :8 "And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: :9 "of sin, because they do not believe in Me; :10 "of righteousness, because I go to My Father and you see Me no more; :11 "of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.

Gamaliel was the grandson of the great Rabbi Hillel

√ *He was the president of the Sanhedrin.*

√ *He was a Pharisee, not a Sadducee*

√ *He posed a keen intellect and was famous for it.*

√ *He, at this time had a well-known, star pupil named Saul of Tarsus.*

√ *He died 18 years before the destruction of the temple*

√ *He died a Pharisee according to history & in opposition to the church.*

Gamaliel's Logic *if personally believed, he fell short of healthy thinking. The evidence was all around him to warrant a special investigation into the claims of Jesus and the Christian faith.*

#1 What was **The Teaching** of the Apostles.

#2 What was **The Validity** of the miracles.

#3 What was **The Scriptures** saying about what was taking place.

The voice of compromise,

"let's wait and see, let's give it some time"

*that's fine advice when you're wanting to watch grass grow,
but regarding the things of eternal life, it can be suicide !!!*

*"Why should you do today,
what you can "PUT OFF" until tomorrow*

Romans 13:11

And do this, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed.

2 Corinthians 6:2

**For He says: "In an acceptable time I have heard you, and in the day of salvation I have helped you."
Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.**

To Delay in Making a Decision
is to Flirt with Disaster

Calvary Chapel's Youth Camp
The 90 year old man who gave his trophies away.

Hebrews 4:7

again He designates a certain day, saying in David, "Today," after such a long time... if you will hear His voice, do not harden your hearts."

D.) The Church: *Announcing the Truth* vv. 40-42

Don't talk about Jesus, I don't want to hear His name.

- **Teaching** *is toward the Believer, the converted.*
- **Preaching** *is toward the unconverted, or unbelievers.*

Preaching should take place on the street corner,
Teaching should take place in the church.

Matthew 5:11-12

"Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. :12 "Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

A Sobering Thought;

*The High Priest's words are recorded here in eternal scripture.
What was in his heart has been laid out for the world to see.*

A Liberating Thought; *We must Obey God !*

- What will my neighbors think? *We must Obey God!*
- What will my family do? *We must Obey God!*
- What will happen to my life ? *We must Obey God!*

What Shall be Written about you?

Revelation 20:15

And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.

Is Your Name in the Book of Life ?

Isaiah 49:16

Look, I have inscribed you on the palms of My hands;