

"<u>Be Filled with the Holy Spirit!</u>" ACTS Chapter 4

- > (v1-12) SPIRIT FILLED BELIEVERS WILL!
- > (v13-22) SPIRIT FILLED BELIEVERS MUST TESTIFY!
- > (v23-31) SPIRIT FILLED BELIEVERS PRAY WITH POWER!
- > (v32-37) SPIRIT FILLED BELIEVERS LIVE IN UNITY AND

LOVE!

- > (v1-12) SPIRIT FILLED BELIEVERS WILL!
- (v1-2) Will TEACH people God's Word!
- (v2) Will PREACH in Jesus the resurrection from the dead!
- (v3) Will experience <u>PERSECUTION!</u>
- (v4) Will see a **HARVEST** of souls!
- (v5-10) Will speak with **BOLDNESS**!
- (v11-12) Will proclaim Jesus as the ONE & ONLY SAVIOR!
- Peter quotes Psalm 118:22 One commentator writes, "The image of "the stone" was not new to these men who were experts in the Old Testament Scriptures. They knew that the "rock" was a symbol of God (Deut. 32:4,15,18,31; 2 Sam. 22:2; Ps. 18:2; Isa. 28:16), and that the Prophet Daniel had used the rock to picture Messiah and the coming of His Kingdom on earth (Dan. 2:31-45). The Jews stumbled over the Rock (Rom. 9:32; 1 Cor. 1:23) and rejected Him, just as Psalm 118:22 had predicted. However, to those who have trusted Him, Jesus Christ is the precious Cornerstone (1 Peter 2:4-8) and the chief Cornerstone (Eph. 2:20).

> (v13-22) SPIRIT FILLED BELIEVERS MUST TESTIFY!

- (v13) Peter and John were <u>uneducated</u> and <u>untrained</u> in the ways of religion; but were taught and trained by Jesus, then <u>empowered</u> by the Holy Spirit.
- (v14-18) Who is this council? They are called the Sanhedrin, a group of 71 members including the High Priest; also known as the Jewish national ruling body and Supreme Court. Take note their demand, "Do not speak or teach in the NAME OF <u>JESUS</u>!"
- (v19-22) We must TESTIFY JESUS CHRIST always and forever!
- > (v23-31) SPIRIT FILLED BELIEVERS PRAY WITH POWER!
- ~ Observe this powerful prayer:
- (1) You are God (not man) (v23-24);
- (2) You created all things (no evolution);

- (3) Prayer must stand upon the Word of God; (v25-26);
- (4) Pray *Honestly* (Jews and Gentiles crucified Jesus; it was God's will for salvation) (v27-28);
- (5) Desire to do more, "to speak" and "to do God's work in the name of Jesus" (not for our glory, but His! (v30-31).
- Dr. R.A. Torrey said, "Pray for great things, expect great things, work for great things but above all—pray." Another commentator writes, "Prayer is not an escape from responsibility; it is our response to God's ability. True prayer energizes us for service and battle."
- > (v32-37) SPIRIT FILLED BELIEVERS LIVE IN UNITY AND LOVE! (v32) Spirit filled Christians are of "ONE HEART AND ONE SOUL"; SHARING WITH ONE ANOTHER.
- (v33) Spirit filled Christians love to WITNESS the <u>RESURRECTION</u> OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST; we also operate in the realm of <u>GRACE</u>, that which affords joy, pleasure, delight, sweetness, charm, loveliness, grace of speech, and the exercise of Christian virtues.
- (v34-35) Spirit filled Christians <u>HELP</u> ONE ANOTHER. Our giving and helping of one another is now determined upon the rest of Scripture; instructions found in the epistles (Romans through Revelation). This is for the sake of organization and the protection against abuse, fraud, and corruption.
- (v36-37) Spirit filled Christians <u>ENCOURAGE</u> each other—be a Barnabas in someone's life today! (Barnabas is mentioned 25 times in the Book of Acts and another five times in the epistles.)

BE A SPIRIT FILLED BELIVER AND GO4GOD!