

UNSTOPPABLE: Daring to Be the Church On Mission

Lesson Eleven • Acts 5:12-42

The Unstoppable Church

Get Ready for a Second Wave of Opposition

Powerful opposition tries again to SILENCE the proclamation of Jesus Christ, but God's Church will not be stopped.

Did we not strictly command you not to teach in this name? And look, you have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine...!" Acts 5:28

God's Church Is Unstoppable!

God answers PRAYER and works POWERFULLY to grow His Church through the proclamation of the Gospel.

"Now, Lord, look on their threats, and grant to Your servants that with all boldness they may speak Your word, by stretching out Your hand to heal, and that signs and wonders may be done through the name of Your holy Servant Jesus." Acts 4:29-30

And through the hands of the apostles many signs and wonders were done among the people. And they were all with one accord in Solomon's Porch. Yet none of the rest dared join them, but the people esteemed them highly. And believers were increasingly added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women. Acts 5:12-14

The Unstoppable Church

1. PRISON Can't Stop the Church from Proclaiming the Gospel!

A Divine Prison Break:

The ruling authorities put the apostles in prison, but God RELEASED them to continue proclaiming the Gospel.

Then the high priest rose up, and all those who were with him (which is the sect of the Sadducees), and they were filled with indignation, and laid their hands on the apostles and put them in the common prison. But at night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out, and said, "Go, stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this life." Acts 5:17-20

2. PEOPLE Can't Stop the Church from Proclaiming the Gospel!

The Authorities' Interrogation of the Apostles:

- The authorities' accusation: "You are DISOBEYING us and making us look bad." Acts 5:28
- The apostles' answer: "We are OBEYING God and proclaiming Jesus." Acts 5:29

Gospel Hatred Then and Now:

We should not be SURPRISED by the fierce resistance and violent reaction toward the proclamation of Jesus Christ then nor now.

When they heard this, they were furious and took counsel to kill them. Acts 5:33

3. PERSECUTION Can't Stop the Church from Proclaiming the Gospel!

Will You Be Silenced through Persecution?

How much would it take to silence you?

And when they had called for the apostles and beaten them, they commanded that they should not speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. Acts 5:40

The Apostles' Response to Persecution:

- The apostles REJOICED that they were counted worthy to suffer for the name of Jesus. Acts 5:41
- The apostles could not be SILENCED from proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus. Acts 5:42

Praying to Be the Church On Mission

"O Lord, grant us the grace to PERSEVERE in proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ, even in the midst of opposition."