THE WELL BIBLE CHURCH

Acts 4:13-22 "The only Name that Saves" (Cont.)

Introduction: In this passage we see the Jewish leaders reaction to Peter's sermon stating "there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved." Acts 4:12 When you preach in the name of Jesus there will be evidence, opposition and a response.

V.13-14. The Evidence

"13 Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated, common men, they were astonished. And they recognized that they had been with Jesus."

• Whenever we are born again(2Corinthians 5:17) there is evidence of the Holy Spirit in us. "29 For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers." Romans 8:29

• The power of the Holy Spirit equips us to do works that otherwise would be impossible for us to do, no matter how uneducated or simple we may be, all for the glory of God, as it says "But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong" 1Corinthians 1:27 (Also read Matthew 4:18-22,
1 Corinthians 12:4-11, Romans 12:6-8)

"14 But seeing the man who was healed standing beside them, they had nothing to say in opposition."

• After being born again there is evidence of a desire for fellowship, discipleship.

• Acts 2:42

V. 15-18 The Opposition

"15 But when they had commanded them to leave the council, they conferred with one another, 16 saying, "What shall we do with these men? For that a notable sign has been performed through them is evident to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and we cannot deny it. 17 But in order that it may spread no further among the people, let us warn them to speak no more to anyone in this name. 18 So they called them and charged them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus."

• If we are preaching in the name of Jesus we will have opposition (Matthew 5:10-12), but let us not lose heart, He will be with us until the end of time Matthew 28:20.

• The Scriptures are being fulfilled. "The kings of the earth set themselves,
and the rulers take counsel together,
against the Lord and against his Anointed" Psalms 2:2

V. 19-22 The Response

19 But Peter and John answered them, "Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you rather than to God, you must judge, 20 for we cannot but speak of what we have seen and heard." 21 And when they had further threatened them, they let them go, finding no way to punish them, because of the people, for all were praising God for what had happened. 22 For the man on whom this sign of healing was performed was more than forty years old."

• We see Peter respond again in Acts 5:29 " 29 But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men."

• “ 32 So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven, 33 but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven.” Matthew 10:32-33
• “39 Jesus said, “For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind.” John 9:39
• Romans 1:16-18

Conclusion:
When we preach the Gospel there will be evidence, but there will also be opposition, and it will demand a response. When we are Holy Spirit lead we are not ashamed of the Gospel (Romans 1:16), for we are called to obey God and not man.

Reflection Question:
How are we going to respond to opposition?

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