

## Jesus Saves

**Acts 4:10-12 (KJV) Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole. <sup>11</sup> This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner. <sup>12</sup> Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.**

*Giving Honor to God, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit. To the men, women, and children of God. Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow. Let's turn to the book of Acts 4:10-12 (KJV) as we lift up the Lord Our God. Our didactic sermon topic is "Jesus Saves."*

Have you ever had your computer crash or worked on a paper and found yourself in the middle of a project and realized that you had forgotten to save or back up your work? It only takes one time for one to learn the importance of saving your work, because you worked so hard on the paper or on the project that you want to ensure that you have the entirety of the work and finish the task. You certainly do want to do all of that work and find out that all that you've done was lost, correct? As you think about the message of Jesus commonly referred to as the Message of the Cross, we know that we were all lost or unsaved. But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through Him (Romans 5:8-10) Tell somebody, "Jesus Saves."

As we look at the first several verses of scripture in Acts Chapter 4, it's important to note that in the midst of a conversation, the chief priests, the captain of the Temple, and some of the Sadducees were concerned and quite frankly, disturbed that Peter and John were claiming that Jesus had risen from the dead. It was late in the evening, and Peter and John were arrested and jailed overnight. Many of the people heard their message and believed it, so that the

number of believers now reached a new high of roughly five thousand men. Tell somebody, "Jesus Saves."

Well, on the next day, the Council of the Jewish leaders was in session in Jerusalem and the guest list was filled with a Who's Who of notable distinguished people. Annas the High Priest was there, Caiaphas, John, Alexander, and many of the High Priest's relatives were in the meeting. Peter and John were brought before them. The Council asked the question "By what power, or by whose authority have you done this?" Now, before they (Peter and John) answered the question, it's important to note that there was a guest there that many guests couldn't see. That invisible guest was the Holy Spirit. Yes, the scripture says that then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Honorable leaders and elders of our nation, if you are talking about the good deed (the miraculous healing) done to the cripple, and how he was healed, let me clearly state to you and to all the people of Israel that it was done in the name and power of Jesus from Nazareth. (Good God Almighty) The Messiah, the man you crucified—but God raised back to life again. Tell somebody "Jesus Saves."

What are you talking about preacher? Thank you. I'm so glad you asked. Peter and John were explaining, proclaiming, and preaching, "It is by His (Jesus) authority that this man stands here healed." It's empowering to know that in Colossians 1:16-17, we understand that by Him (Jesus) all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. Yes, Yes, Yes, it is Jesus - the Messiah. He is (the one referred to in the Scriptures when they speak of) "the stone you builders rejected, which has become the cornerstone. This was the stone, which was set at nought of you builders, but now... I wish I had a witness. This stone (JESUS) has become the chief corner stone. I came to let you know

that there is nobody else where you can find salvation. Peter and John were proclaiming that "There is no other name under heaven given to humanity, by which we must be saved." Tell somebody Jesus Saves Y'all.

The members of the council were amazed when they saw the Holy Ghost boldness of Peter and John. They could see that they were ordinary men with no special training in the scriptures. One thing that they couldn't deny was that these men had been with Jesus. They could see the man who was lame, now healed standing right there in their presence. He was standing there among them, so that the council couldn't dispute the miraculous healing that had taken place. So, they ordered Peter and John to leave out of the council chamber and they conferred among themselves asking "What should we do with these men?" Well, we can't deny that they have performed a miraculous sign, furthermore, everybody in Jerusalem knows about it. But to keep them from spreading their propaganda any further, we must warn them not to speak to anyone in Jesus' name again." So they called the apostles back in and commanded them to never speak or teach in the name of Jesus again. ***Tell somebody, Jesus show-nuff saves.***

Peter and John replied, "Do you think God wants us to obey you rather than him? We cannot stop talking about everything we have seen and heard." Jesus Saves. Jesus Saves. JESUS SAVES... Hallelujah to the Lamb of God.

The council then threatened them further, but they finally let them go because they didn't know how to punish them without starting a riot. Oh, my goodness. Everyone was praising God for this miraculous sign. A celebration had exploded as the healing of a man who had been lame for more than ***forty years***. Can you imagine? Forty years and miraculously healed. ***Jesus Saves and He continues to save today in this present time.***

In closing, Jesus was calling the crowd to join his disciples. He said, "If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross, and follow me. If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake and for the sake of the Good News, you will save it. And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul? Is anything worth more than your soul? If anyone is ashamed of me and my message in these adulterous and sinful days, the Son of Man will be ashamed of that person when he returns in the glory of his Father with the holy angels." (Mark 8:34-38) "**Jesus Saves.**" Hallelujah, Amen.