

Will it Last?

Acts 5:17-42

November 12, 2023 | Jason Finley, Lead Pastor of Equipping

John 16:33 | I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.

Matthew 16:18 | I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

Big Idea: Because Jesus reigns, don't fear for the future of the church.

I. Jesus proves his power through miraculous intervention (vv. 17-26)

Psalm 2:1-2 | 1 Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain? 2 The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord and against his Anointed....

Psalm 2:4 | He who sits in the heavens laughs; the Lord holds them in derision.

II. Jesus emboldens disciples amidst persecution (vv. 27-32)

Acts 4:29-30 | "29 ...And now, Lord, look upon their threats and grant to your servants to continue to speak your word with all boldness, 30 while you stretch out your hand to heal, and signs and wonders are performed through the name of your holy servant Jesus."

Psalm 2:4 | 27 Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, 28 and not frightened in anything by your opponents. This is a clear sign to them of their destruction, but of your salvation, and that from God. 29 For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake, 30 engaged in the same conflict that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

III. Jesus changes minds in surprising ways (vv. 33-39)

IV. Jesus turns dishonor into joy (vv. 40-42)

1 Peter 4:12-16, 19 | 12 Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. 13 But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed. 14 If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. 15 But let none of you suffer as a murderer or a thief or an evildoer or as a meddler. 16 Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name.... 19 Therefore let those who suffer according to God's will entrust their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good.

Benediction

Jude 24-25 | 24 Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, 25 to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.