



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 07, 2021

Rev. Larry D. Green, Pastor

Grow. Give. Go.

TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH

THE ONGOING WORK OF JESUS BY THE SPIRIT THROUGH THE CHURCH IN THE WORLD

The Book of Acts - Part 23

ON OUR KNEES AND IN GOD'S HANDS

Believing in the Power of Prayer and Trusting in the Providence of God

(Acts 12:1-25)

INTRODUCTION:

- 12 "Who is the man who desires life
And loves length of days that he may see good?
13 Keep your tongue from evil
And your lips from speaking deceit.
14 Depart from evil and do good;
Seek peace and pursue it."
15 "The eyes of the LORD are toward the righteous
And His ears are open to their cry.
16 The face of the LORD is against evildoers,
To cut off the memory of them from the earth."

—Psalm 34:12-16

"For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous,
and his ears are open to their prayer.
But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil."

—1 Peter 3:12

THE PROGRESSION OF PERSECUTION:

- 1. The Priests and the ... (4:1ff.)
2. The ... (8:1-3)
3. The ... (12)

1A. THE LORD HIS PEOPLES' ... (v. 1-5a)

"Now about that time Herod the king laid hands on some who belonged to the church in order to mistreat them. And he had James the brother of John put to death with a sword. When he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter also...."

- To live by faith is to live with both unanswered ... and unanswered ...

2A. THE LORD HIS PEOPLES' ... (v. 5b-19)

"...but prayer for him was being made fervently by the church to God."

1B. The _____ : (v. 6-10)

"On the very night when Herod was about to bring him forward, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and guards in front of the door were watching over the prison. And behold, **an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared...**"

2B. The _____ : (v. 11-19)

1C. Peter's _____ . (v. 11)

"When Peter came to himself, he said, '**Now I know for sure that the Lord has sent forth His angel and rescued me from the hand of Herod** and from all that the Jewish people were expecting.'"

2C. The Church's _____ . (v. 12-17)

"But Peter continued knocking; and when they had opened the door, they saw him and were amazed." (v. 16)

3C. The Soldiers' _____ . (v. 18)

"Now when day came, **there was no small disturbance among the soldiers** as to what could have become of Peter."

4C. Herod's _____ . (v. 19)

"When Herod had searched for him and had not found him, **he examined the guards and ordered that they be led away to execution.** Then he went down from Judea to Caesarea and was spending time there."

3A. THE LORD _____ HIS PEOPLES' _____ . (v. 20-23)

"...On an appointed day Herod, having put on his royal apparel, took his seat on the rostrum and began delivering an address to them. ²² The people kept crying out, 'The voice of a god and not of a man!' ²³ And immediately an angel of the Lord struck him **because he did not give God the glory**, and he was eaten by worms and died."

- Even if God does not judge them _____ , He will judge them _____ .

CONCLUSION:

TWO ASSURANCES:

1. We can be sure that God's _____ will not be _____ .

2. We can be sure that God's _____ will not be _____ .

"But the word of the Lord continued to grow and to be multiplied...." (v. 24)