

*ordinary*  
**BOLDNESS**

*ordinary*  
**BOLDNESS**

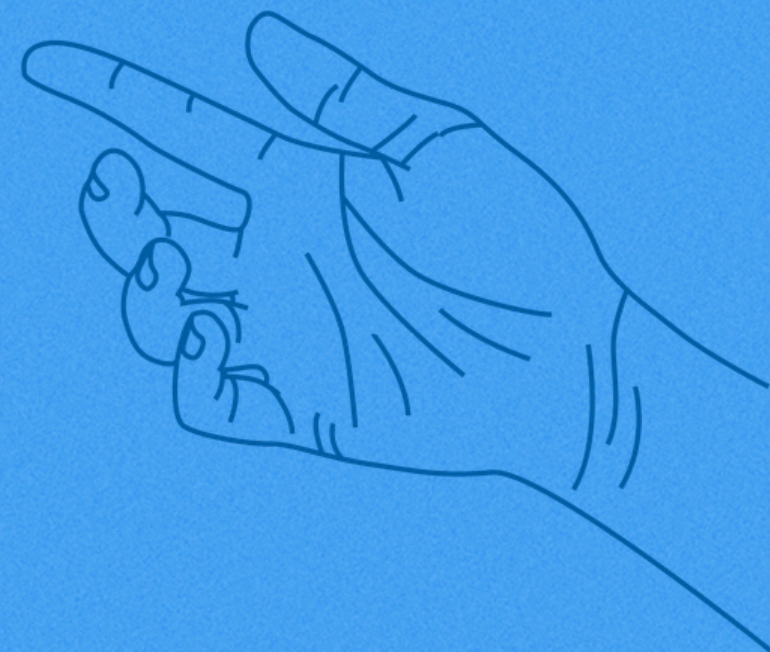
**GOD'S APPROVAL**

*We must decide whose  
approval matters most:*

**GOD'S**

*or*

**MAN'S**



# ACTS 4:1

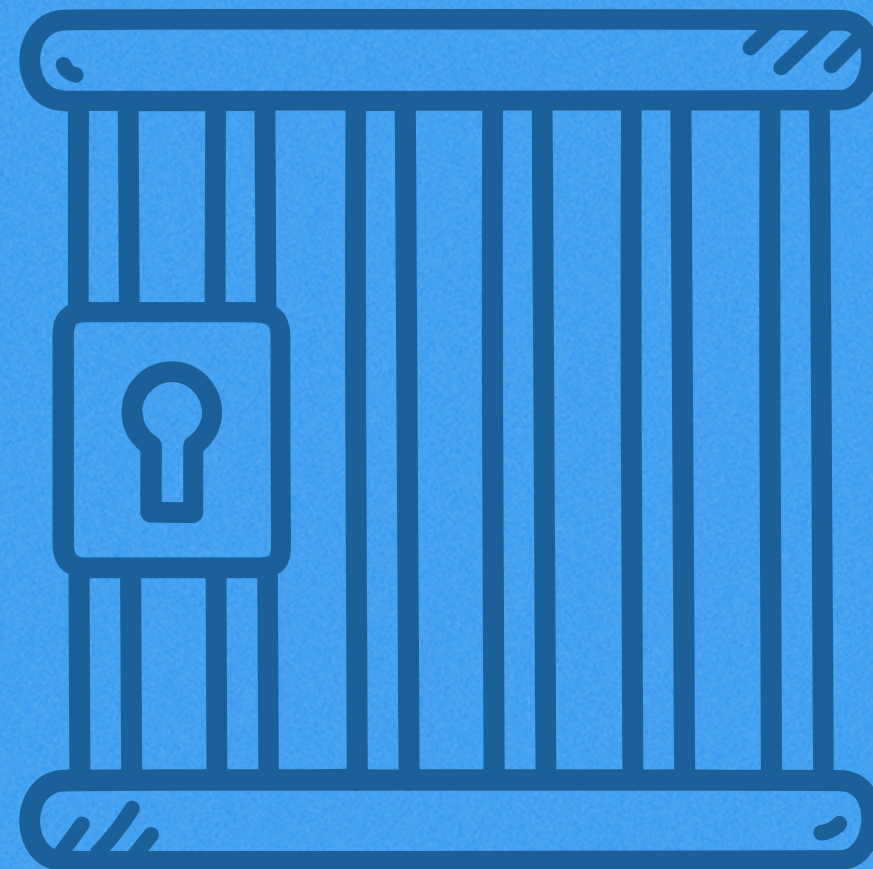
While Peter and John were speaking to the people, they were confronted by the priests, the captain of the Temple guard, and some of the Sadducees.

# ACTS 4:2-3

These leaders were very disturbed that Peter and John were teaching the people that through Jesus there is a resurrection of the dead.<sup>3</sup> They arrested them and, since it was already evening, put them in jail until morning.

*First evidence of*

# PERSECUTION



# ACTS 4:4

But many of the people who heard their message believed it, so the number of men who believed now totaled about 5,000.

# ACTS 4:5-7

The next day the council of all the rulers and elders and teachers of religious law met in Jerusalem.<sup>6</sup> Annas the high priest was there, along with Caiaphas, John, Alexander, and other relatives of the high priest.<sup>7</sup> They brought in the two disciples and demanded, “By what power, or in whose name, have you done this?”

# ACTS 4:8-12

Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers and elders of our people,<sup>9</sup> are we being questioned today because we’ve done a good deed for a crippled man? Do you want to know how he was healed?<sup>10</sup> Let me clearly state to all of you and to all the people of Israel that he was healed by the powerful name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, the man you crucified but whom God raised from the dead.

<sup>11</sup> For Jesus is the one referred to in the Scriptures, where it says, ‘The stone that you builders rejected has now become the cornerstone.’ <sup>12</sup> There is salvation in no one else! God has given no other name under heaven by which we must be saved.”

*Jesus stayed silent*

*Peter spoke up*

**BECAUSE IT  
WAS GOD'S  
WILL**

# ACTS 4:8

“Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit...”

*“When we read Peter’s speech,  
and remember to whom it was  
spoken, we recognize one of the  
world’s great demonstrations*

**OF COURAGE.”**

*– William Barclay*

*Court of* **MAN**

*and*

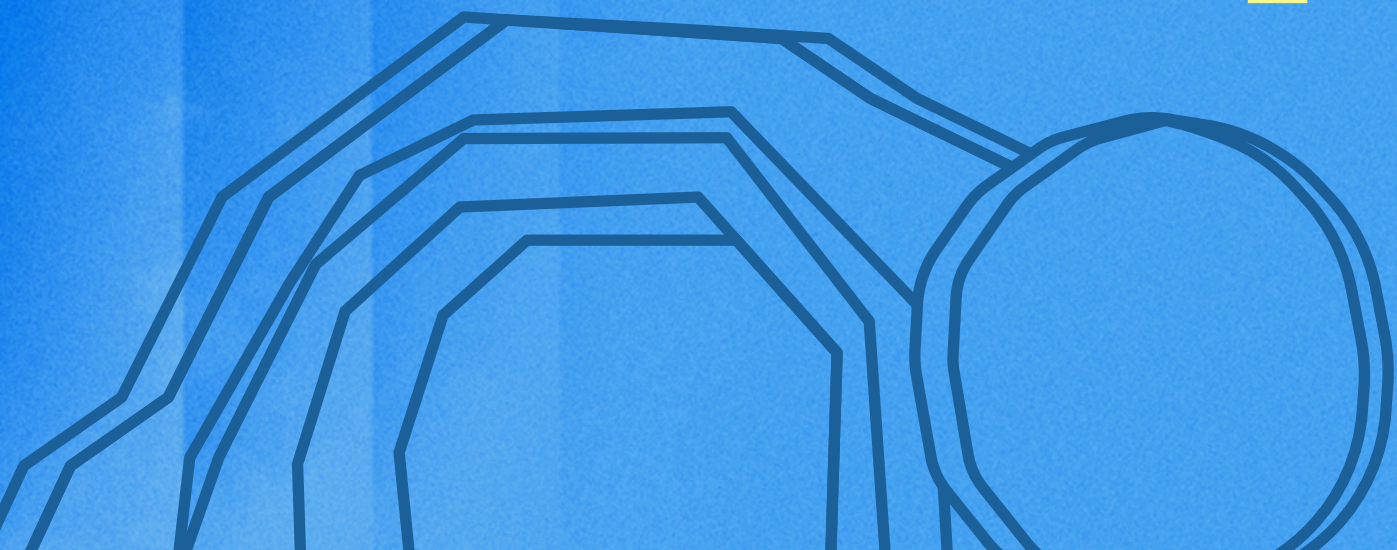
*Court of* **GOD**

*Our sins put Him*

**ON THE CROSS.**

*God's power raised Him*

**FROM THE DEAD.**



# ACTS 4:13

The members of the council were amazed when they saw the **boldness** of Peter and John, for they could see that they were **ordinary men** with no special training in the Scriptures. They also recognized them as **men who had been with Jesus.**

# ACTS 4:18-22

So they called the apostles back in and commanded them never again to speak or teach in the name of Jesus.<sup>19</sup> But Peter and John replied, “Do you think God wants us to obey you rather than him?<sup>20</sup> We cannot stop telling about everything we have seen and heard.”<sup>21</sup> 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. For everyone was praising God<sup>22</sup> for this miraculous sign—the healing of a man who had been lame for more than forty years.

*We cannot*

**STOP.**



*We must decide whose  
approval matters most:*

**GOD'S**

*or*

**MAN'S**

