

## I. The Interrogation Of The Church (5-7)

- A. It was an overwhelming resistance (5-6) - **“On the next day their rulers and elders and scribes gathered together in Jerusalem, 6 with Annas the high priest and Caiaphas and John and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family.”**
- B. It was a hostile situation (7a) - **“And when they had set them in the midst...”**
- C. It was an incredible opportunity (7b) - **“By what power or by what name did you do this?”**

## II. The Proclamation Of The Church (8-12)

- A. The prerequisite for powerful proclamation (8) - **“Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them...”**
- B. The precision of the powerful proclamation (9-11) - **“If we are being examined today concerning a good deed done to a crippled man, by what means this man has been healed, 10 let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead - by Him this man is standing before you well. 11 This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone.”**
- C. The point of the powerful proclamation (12) - **“And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”**

## III. The Opposition To The Church (13-18)

- A. The church in Acts was not impressive (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.”**

**Why were the opponents astonished?** They recognized that unlettered, untrained men, ignorant of the methods and traditions of their prescribed ways of learning were:

1. Possessing an anointing they did not have (4:8)
2. Releasing a power they did not have (4:9-10)
3. Proclaiming a risen Savior whom they did not know (4:11-12)
4. Operating in a boldness that they could not intimidate (4:13a)

- B. The church in Acts was not explainable (14-16, 21-22) - **“But seeing the man who was healed standing beside them, they had nothing to say in opposition. 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... 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.”**

- C. The church in Acts was not ignored (17-18) - **“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.”**

- D. The church in Acts was not intimidated (19-20) - **“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.”**