

# There's a Shaking Coming

## Central Question:

**What does God's shaking look like, and what is He after in our lives and in the church?**

*Key Text:*

*Acts 4:31*

## I. Opening and Scripture Reading

- Reading of Acts 4:31 and the call to recognize that when God's people pray, God moves and the place is shaken.
- Theme introduced: God is bringing a shaking that leads to boldness and Spirit-filled witness.

## II. What "Shaking" Means in Scripture

- Shaking can be divine judgment or divine intervention.
- Purpose: to remove what is unstable so that what cannot be shaken remains (Hebrews 12:26–29).
- Uses both literal and figurative imagery: Sinai trembling, prophetic "heavens and earth" shaking, and prison doors opening.

## III. The Enemy's Strategy (If I were the devil)

- Keep you from worshiping God at all.
- Make truth "relative" so no one knows up from down.
- Keep you too busy for prayer, Scripture, church, or life groups.
- Fill your hands with a phone so they're too busy to fold in prayer.
- Fracture homes: absent fathers, bitter marriages, confused children; if he fractures the home, he fractures the future.
- Divide churches with offense, comparison, petty arguments, and celebrity culture so Christians fight each other instead of resisting him.

- Desensitize sin through entertainment until what once offended now seems like “just a joke.”
- Attack your identity with shame so you can’t hear the Father’s love.
- Greatest trick: convince you he isn’t real so you never resist him.

## IV. Walkthrough of Acts 3–4

- A. Context: Acts 2 outpouring of the Holy Spirit empowers the church.
- B. The Beautiful Gate healing (Acts 3:1–10): “Silver and gold have I none, but what I have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ, rise up and walk.”
- C. The miracle’s purpose: opens a door for the gospel; Peter preaches Christ crucified and risen; many believe (about 5,000, Acts 4:4).
- D. Opposition: rulers, elders, and the high priestly family object specifically to the name of Jesus (Acts 4:1–7, 17–18).
- E. The mark of true disciples: “uneducated, common men,” yet people recognize they “had been with Jesus” (Acts 4:13).
- F. The church’s response: they pray together; God shakes the place; all are filled with the Holy Spirit and speak the word with boldness (Acts 4:23–31).

## V. The Name of Jesus vs. Our Names

- Power and authority are not in a church brand, a pastor, a team, or a ministry.
- In the name of Jesus: sins are forgiven, bodies are healed, mountains move, and the gospel advances.

## VI. Faith Over Feelings

- The enemy uses frustration to numb us spiritually; worship is not about what we feel but about what we know and Who we know.
- We need the Holy Spirit not only in services but in our homes and daily lives.

## VII. Illustration: The Roller That Got Shaken

- A heavy roller, when lifted and shaken, dropped broken pieces that didn’t belong.

- Application: when God shakes a life or a church, things not meant to remain may fall away—habits, offenses, wrong attachments, even roles or jobs that keep us from Him.

## VIII. What Might God Be Shaking Right Now?

- Busyness that edges out prayer, Scripture, church, and life groups.
- Tech overload: hands full of a phone instead of lifted in worship or folded in prayer.
- Family fractures: absent fathers, bitter marriages, confused children.
- Relative truth replacing God's truth.
- Desensitization to sin through media and culture.
- Identity confusion and shame drowning out the Father's voice.

## IX. How We Respond

1. Repent of distraction, unbelief, and divided loyalties.
2. Re-center everything on the name of Jesus.
3. Seek a fresh filling of the Holy Spirit.
4. Pursue unity around the gospel rather than offenses and comparisons.
5. Pray together until God shakes our gathering and our hearts.
6. Speak the word of God with boldness in our homes, church, and community.

## X. Reflection and Next Steps

- Where do I need God's shaking to remove what doesn't belong?
- What practices will I change this week to make room for prayer and Scripture?
- Who will I pray with regularly for a fresh filling and boldness?
- Where am I being silent about Jesus' name, and how will I step forward in boldness?

## XI. Key Scriptures for Further Study

- Acts 2:1–4

- Acts 3:1–10
- Acts 3:19–21
- Acts 4:1–4, 8–13, 18–31
- Acts 16:25–26
- Hebrews 12:26–29
- Exodus 19:16–19
- Haggai 2:6–7