



Acts: *To the Ends of the Earth*

Acts 4:23-31

Introduction

❖ 2 Timothy 3:12-13—*Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil people and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived.*

1. Where do I go now?
2. What do you do?
3. How do you pray?
4. Will prayer make a difference?

In the wake of persecution, Peter and John went to the Church

❖ **Acts 4:23**

- ❖ John 6:67—*“Do you want to go away as well?”*
- ❖ John 6:68—*“Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life, and we have believed, and have come to know, that you are the Holy One of God.”*
- ❖ Galatians 6:2—*Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.*

In the wake of persecution, Peter and John prayed with the Church

❖ **Acts 4:24a**

- ❖ John 18:36—*“My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from the world.”*

In the wake of persecution, the Church prayed the right way and for the right things

❖ **Acts 4:24-30**

1. They prayed the Word of God
2. They prayed the character of God
3. They prayed the plan of God

- ❖ Philippians 1:6—*And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.*



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- ❖ Isaiah 46:8-10—*"I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me, declaring the end from the beginning and from ancient times things not yet done, saying, 'My counsel shall stand, and I will accomplish all my purpose,"*

4. They prayed for boldness

- ❖ Matthew 5:10-12—*"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness 'sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you."*

❖ **Acts 4:29-30**

In the wake of the Church's prayer, God moved mightily among his people

❖ **Acts 4:31**