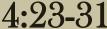
The CTS OF THE APOSTLES





Today's Scripture Reading

Acts 4:23-31



²³ When they were released, they went to their friends and reported what the chief priests and the elders had said to them. ²⁴ And when they heard it, they lifted their voices together to God and said, "Sovereign Lord, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and everything in them, ²⁵ who through the mouth of our father David, your servant, ^[a] said by the Holy Spirit,

- "Why did the Gentiles rage, and the peoples plot in vain?
- ²⁶The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers were gathered together, against the Lord and against his Anointed'—



²⁷ for truly in this city there were gathered together against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel, 28 to do whatever your hand and your plan had predestined to take place. 29 And now, Lord, look upon their threats and grant to your servants to continue to speak your word with all boldness, ³⁰ while you stretch out your hand to heal, and signs and wonders are performed through the name of your holy servant Jesus." 31 And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the word of God with boldness.

The CTS OF THE APOSTLES



- Luke and Acts started as **one book** encouraging Theophilus on the Life and works of Jesus.
- Jesus rises from the dead and reveals himself.
- Jesus **reveals his mission** and provides the power to accomplish it.
- His believers are filled with the Holy Spirit
- The life of Jesus and the fulfillment of the OT validates that God made Jesus Lord.



- The Jews face their reality of being enemies of God without Christ and ask what must they do.
- Peter tells them to "Repent!" and trust Jesus.
- God gives grace and many become Christians
- The early church begins to form Christian Community
- Jesus heals through Peter and John to validate his rule



...BY HOW WE RESPOND TO PERSECUTION

23 When they were released, they went to their friends and reported what the chief priests and the elders had said to them.



...BY HOW WE VIEW GOD THE FATHER

23 When they were released, they went to their friends and reported what the chief priests and the elders had said to them. 24 And when they heard it, they lifted their voices together to God and said, "Sovereign Lord, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and everything in them,



...BY HOW WE VIEW GOD THE FATHER

25 who through the mouth of our father David, your servant, said by the Holy Spirit, "Why did the Gentiles rage, and the peoples plot in vain? 26 The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers were gathered together, against the Lord and against his Anointed'— 27 for truly in this city there were gathered together against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel, 28 to do whatever your hand and your plan had predestined to take place.



...BY KINGDOM-FOCUSED PRAYERS

29 And now, Lord, look upon their threats and grant to your servants to continue to speak your word with all boldness, 30 while you stretch out your hand to heal, and signs and wonders are performed through the name of your holy servant Jesus." 31 And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the word of God with boldness.



...THROUGH PRAYER THAT:

UNLEASHES
THE POWER OF JESUS
THROUGH HIS PEOPLE
FOR KINGDOM PURPOSES

The CTS OF THE APOSTLES