

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

THE LIFE OF JESUS

RLJ-1729

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NOVEMBER 10, 2019

PART 24: LIFE AFTER PENTECOST

THE DAY AFTER PENTECOST

Three thousand Jews from different nations of the Roman Empire and Babylon were in Jerusalem talking about their encounter with Jesus the next day. The Bible doesn't state this, but most likely they were seeking Jesus' followers to find out more about the Messiah.

Word spread that the chief apostles had gone to the temple ground and thousands of people gathered to hear about Jesus. Peter and John used the power of the Holy Spirit and a man who had been lame since birth was instantly healed. This event caused a great commotion among the people. **Acts 3:1-11**

All the people gathered on the temple grounds realized that Peter and John had displayed supernatural powers which the High Priest and his cronies lacked. Peter again moved by the Holy Spirit began to preach. **verses 12-26**

Satan had ordered the death of Jesus and that plan backfired when the Son of God rose from the dead. Now Satan was beside himself as numerous small Jesus' were running around performing miracles with people flocking to them. Peter's second sermon netted another 2,000 Jewish men, who when added to the first 3,000, the church now numbered 5,120 members.

Satan moved on his troops and the Jewish leadership ordered the arrest of Peter and John. **Acts 4:1-4**

After spending a night in the High Priest's prison, Peter and John were dragged before the same Sanhedrin court where Jesus had been tried. **verses 5-7**

This time the Holy Spirit rose up in Peter and he rebuked the Jewish leadership without fear. **verses 8-12**

They realized that an extraordinary miracle had occurred which could not be denied. Peter and John had been with Jesus, and in their discussion, the Jewish leadership did not dare have the Romans kill them for fear of the people which would rise up against them. Their only option was to threaten Peter and John. **verses 12-18**

Peter and John refused to back down. **verses 19-20**

The High Priest and his cronies were powerless as they were just a bunch of religious people led by Satan. **verses 21-22**

A GREAT PRAYER MEETING

Peter and John went straight to the rest of the 118 disciples who were meeting in the upper room. Instead of being intimidated by Peter and John's report, the disciples began to pray and someone led them in a powerful prayer that shook the house. At the same time, they got a new filling of the Holy Spirit. **verses 23-32**



The apostles deployed throughout Jerusalem, moving in the great power of the Holy Spirit. **verse 33**

THE DEVIL STIKES BACK

The Devil only has variations of the same program which he repeatedly uses; steal, kill and destroy. **John 10:10**

While Ananias and Sapphira were saved and baptized in the Holy Spirit, they still exercised a free will that wanted praise and recognition from the church just like had occurred with Barnabas. However, they did not want to donate all the money from the proceeds of the sale. Satan took advantage of this weakness and induced their souls to lie about the matter. The Holy Spirit confronted Ananias and Sapphira through Peter and killed them on the spot. **Acts 5:1-11**

There was harmony in the beginning. **Acts 4:32-34**

Satan stirred up strife among the believers. **Acts 6:1-4**

Stephen was murdered by the Sanhedrin. **Acts 7:51-60**

The apostle James was executed by King Herod. **Acts 12:1-2**

The Devil planned on killing Peter next. **verses 3-4**

God intervened and rescued Peter through a holy angel. **verses 5-17**

King Herod had mocked Jesus before the crucifixion; he ran out of grace and was killed by a holy angel a few days later. **verses 18-23**

A SPIRITUAL BATTLE

The New Testament church was born through the magnificent baptism of the Holy Spirit when all the believers were endowed with supernatural power. Yet God allowed the Devil to strike at the church only a few months after the day of Pentecost when Stephen and the apostle James were killed.

All the apostles were eventually murdered with the exception of John. The spiritual battle for the last 2,000 years has been vicious. This is a conflict that will continue until the end of the thousand year kingdom. **John 15:16-21**

The Book of Acts is the historical record of supernatural activities by the Holy Spirit in the early church. Denominations and pastors who propagate the lie that there are no more supernatural events today like the baptism of the Holy Spirit, gift of healing, speaking in tongues, prophecy, and the casting out of demons – ostensibly because that was for a specific time in the past – are under judgment by God.

Jesus warned us about adding and removing words from the Bible. This type of activity by denominations and ministers should be condemned and rebuked by Christians who believe that the Bible is the Word of God. **Revelation 22:16-21; Mark 16:15-18**

SUMMARY

God rescued Peter but let James and Stephen die. We can therefore conclude that God won't rescue everyone.

There are Christians in China, North Korea, Vietnam, Cuba, Pakistan, India, Burma, and Islamic nations that are suffering immensely and many are being killed.

Christians in Europe and North America are now living a good life; there is mild persecution but no one is being killed for their faith.

Christians experiencing persecution are wondering why it is happening to them? Why are Christians in the West being spared? God has not revealed why some live in luxury while others are starving in concentration camps.

Christians living in the West should be praying for the suffering church in other nations and at the same time praising God for His goodness to us. **Matthew 10:16-33**

Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!

Do you have an ear to hear with?