

Sermon Worksheet, 10/03/09

So after they had fasted and prayed, they placed their hands on them and sent them off. The two of them, sent on their way by the Holy Spirit, went down to Seleucia and sailed from there to Cyprus. (Acts 13:3-4)



Passage: Acts 4:1-22

Theme: Sent by the Holy Spirit, No.7

In this drill, we will learn about the two opposite forces—the force of the Holy Spirit and another force that goes against it.

Observations:

- 1) What kinds of people came to the place where Peter and the other disciples were still speaking? Look at Luke 22:52, and try to guess what probably came to their mind that time. Also, find out who were Sadducees, and what they believed, if you still don't know (cf. Acts 23:1ff). And explain why they were so **“disturbed”** by the disciples.
- 2) Try to find who were the people mentioned in vv. 5-6 (cf. Luke 3:2, 22:66). Keep that in mind, and compare Peter's confession seen in vv. 8-12 and 19 and those in Luke 22:54-62. How did his confessions change concerning Jesus?
- 3) In v. 8, Luke begins Peter's speech by adding **“filled with the Holy Spirit”**. Pay attention to the two spiritual forces that were working that time—the force of the Holy Spirit and another force that was going against it. Divide the passage into two parts—one describing the force of the Holy Spirit and another describing the opposite force. Can you see what each force was trying to do?

Personal Applications:

- 1) Do you think that the reason Peter changed from the one who denied Jesus to the one we see in this passage was simply because the Holy Spirit came upon him, and he received the power? If not, explain how he changed by showing the process it took.
- 2) Many people understand the work of the Holy Spirit in a very simple and easy way by referring to the passages like Luke 21:12-14, Mark 13:11 and Mat 10:19-20. But is there anything you learn from this passage? Do you think that if you are filled with the Holy Spirit, you will automatically come to have boldness like this? If not, how are the boldness and words to speak actually given to you?
- 3) Often, people think that they are filled with the Holy Spirit and do things thinking that they are guided by the Holy Spirit, but they are actually working against the Holy Spirit and bothering the other God's vessels. Or, the boldness they believe they have is often the pride and roughness coming from their flesh. What really makes the difference?

Prayers, and etc.

- 1) Pray that you will understand more the work of the Holy Spirit, and be able to work for the kingdom of God.
- 2) The Holy Spirit always speaks to your group and family. Write down what you believe he is saying to you, and pray that you will be faithful and bold to do it.
- 3) Pray for the recent newcomers, and the individuals whom you want to bring to church till the end of October. Please list their names and include the list in your report.