

# ACTS

## The Unstoppable Church

Acts 12

### "About that time ..." v. 1-5

The Church is flourishing! Consider the miraculous conversions: 3,000 on Pentecost, the Samaritans, the Ethiopian eunuch, Saul of Tarsus, Cornelius, and now the Gentile city of Antioch ...

And then a major setback – James, the brother of John is killed by Herod Agrippa and Peter, the leader of the church was surely soon to follow ...

*Some thoughts on persecution:*

*Persecution is \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ when and where the Gospel is advancing.*

*The level of persecution the church faces is directly related to the \_\_\_\_\_ of its mission field.*

*God is sovereign and makes persecution serve the \_\_\_\_\_.*

*Persecution has never stopped the Church.*

But now the church appears to be \_\_\_\_\_. They have no political influence. They have no social standing. They have no armed might. They have no advocates.

What they have is a Heavenly Father who hears their \_\_\_\_\_!

<sup>v.5</sup> *So Peter was kept in prison, but earnest prayer for him was made to God by the church.*

*Persecution and pain can push us to \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_.*

*Some thoughts on "earnest" prayer:*

*Earnest prayer is impervious to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.*

*Earnest prayer is not \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_.*

*Earnest prayer is \_\_\_\_\_ prayer.*

### The deliverance of Peter – v. 6-19

The church wasn't \_\_\_\_\_ but they were \_\_\_\_\_.

Peter wasn't \_\_\_\_\_. In fact, he was \_\_\_\_\_!

Only \_\_\_\_\_ could have accomplished this!

Irony – they \_\_\_\_\_ for this to happen but were \_\_\_\_\_ when it did!

### The futility of fighting God – v. 20-25

<sup>23</sup> *Immediately an angel of the Lord struck him down, because he did not give God the glory, and he was eaten by worms and breathed his last.*

<sup>24</sup> *But the word of God increased and multiplied.*

### A few lessons for us today:

We'll always be dependent on \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

We'll never be dependent on \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

The success of the mission is because of God's \_\_\_\_\_ and His \_\_\_\_\_.

If we're doing this right, we too will be \_\_\_\_\_. And that's ok.

God – and His Church – will not be \_\_\_\_\_. Victory is assured!

My response today: