



Acts

Chapter 4

Review

1: Ascension, New Apostle, Wait for HS

2: Holy Spirit, birth of Church, Languages, Peter preaches,
3000 saved

3: Lame man healed, Peter preaches, 5000 saved

4: First persecution of the church, Sanhedrin

4:4 However, many of those who heard the word believed; the number of the men being about five thousand.

Persecution in ACTS

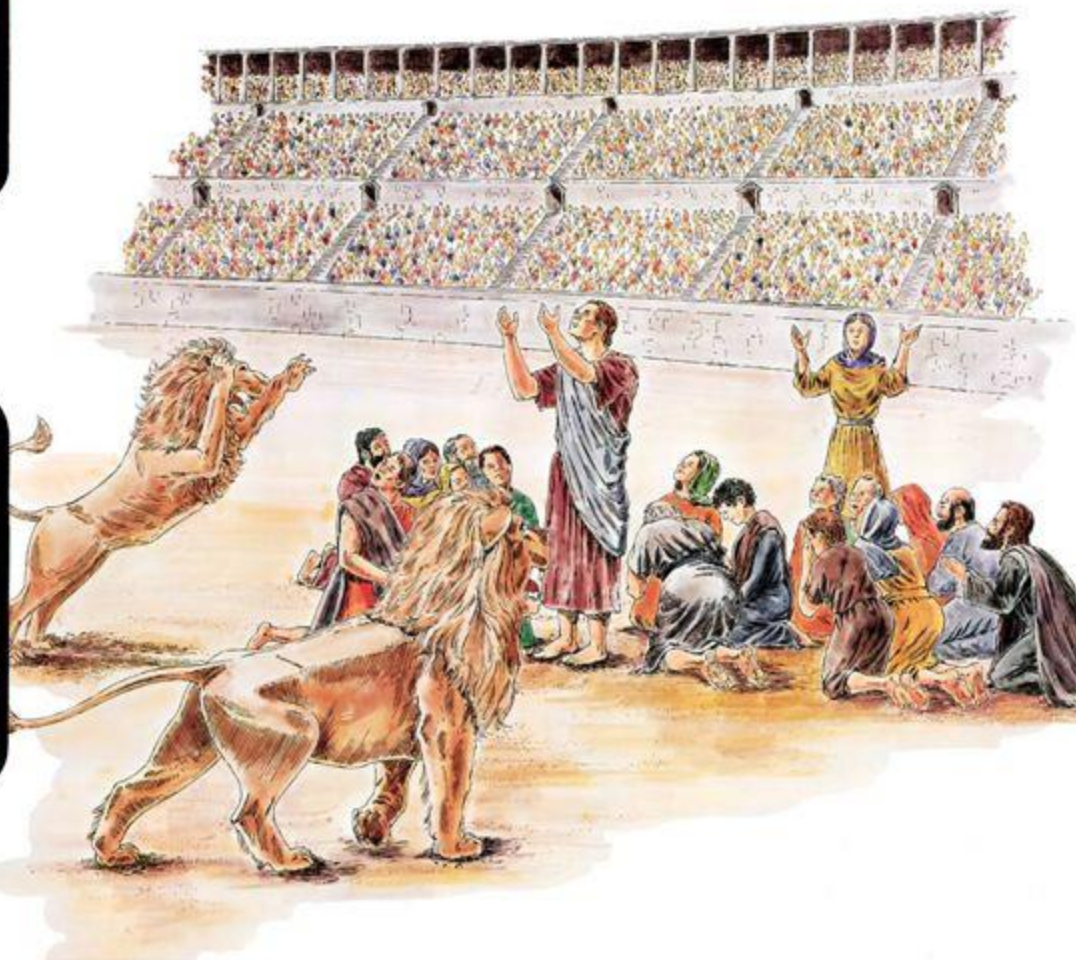
- 4: Peter & John arrested, Sanhedrin, threatened
- 5: Apostles Imprisoned, beaten, released
- 6: Stephen before Council
- 7: Stephen Stoned to death
- 8: Saul leads persecution in Jerusalem, Damascus
- 12: Death of James, first apostle martyred
- 13-28: Pauls Journeys, trials, imprisonment in Rome

THE CHURCH IN PERSECUTION



**Persecution
spreads the
gospel**

The Roman Persecution



**Persecution
by Nero
A.D. 64**



**Catacombs of
Rome
A.D. 257**



**Diocletian
burns Bibles
A.D. 303**



EXTREME PERSECUTION

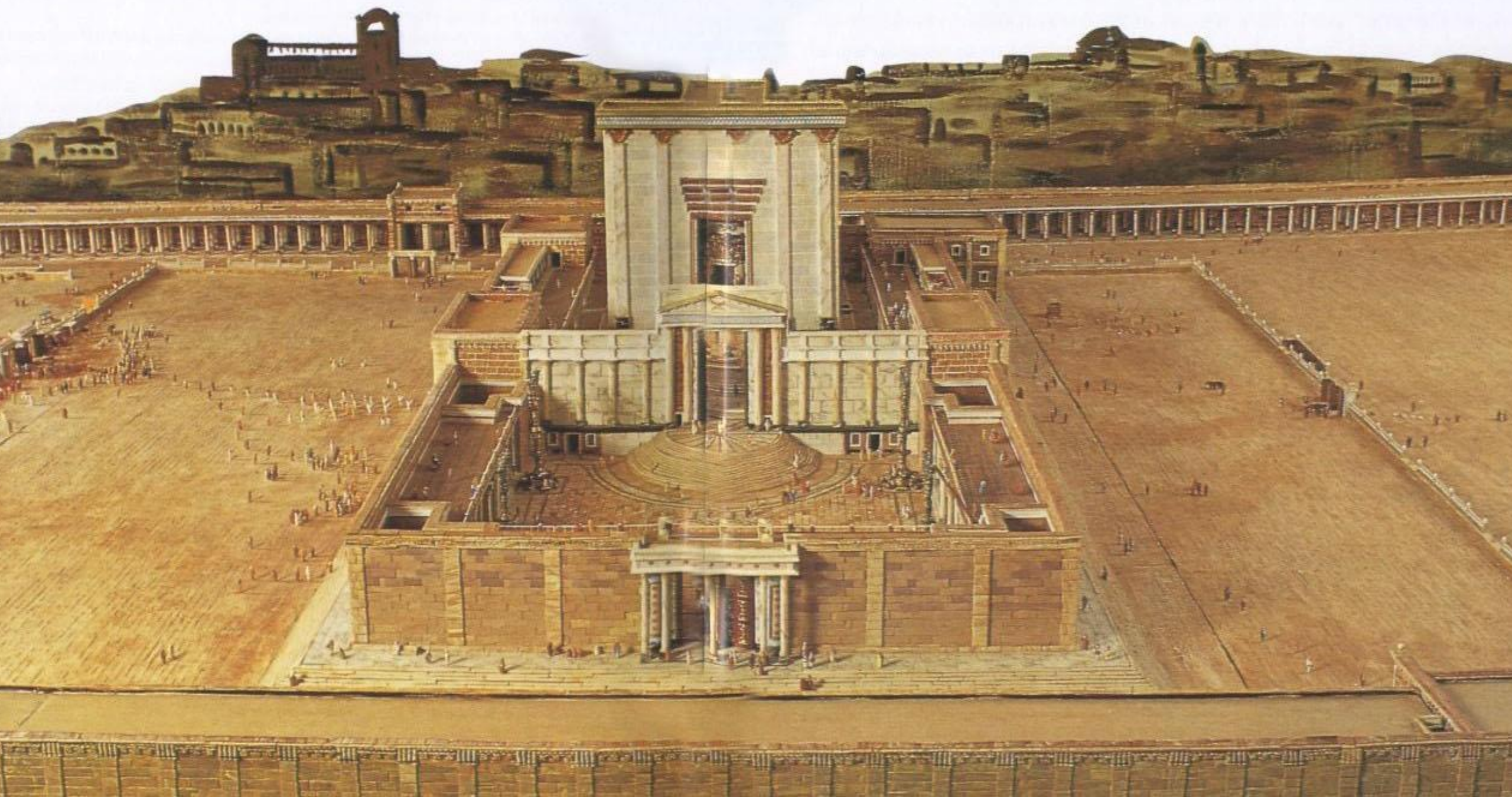
SEVERE PERSECUTION

MODERATE PERSECUTION

SPARSE PERSECUTION

In 2016 approx 90,000 Christians
killed for their faith around world.







4:1 Now as they spoke to the people, the priests, captain of the temple, and the Sadducees came upon them,

4:2 being greatly disturbed that they taught the people and preached in Jesus the resurrection from the dead.

4:3 And they laid hands on them, and put *them* in custody until the next day, for it was already evening.

4:4 However, many of those who heard the word believed; the number of the men being about five thousand.

4:5 And it came to pass, on the next day,
that their rulers, elders, and scribes,

4:6 as well as Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and
Alexander, and as many as were of the family of the high
priest, were gathered together at Jerusalem.



Before the Sanhedrin in Acts

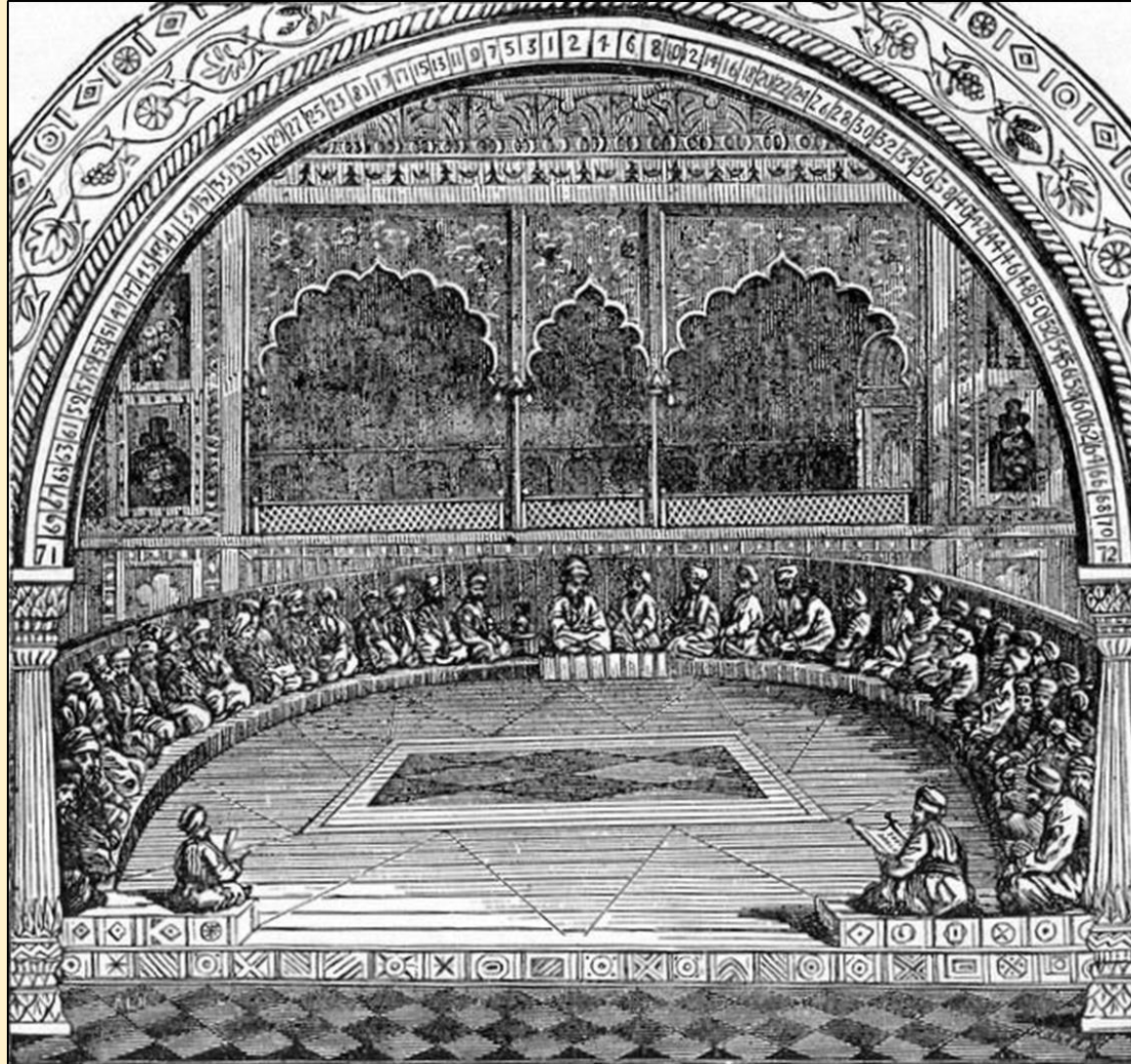
Peter & John (Acts 4:7)

Peter & the apostles (5:27)

Stephen (6:12)

Paul (22:30)

4:7 And when they had set them in the midst, they asked,
“By what power or by what name have you done this?”



4:8 Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them,
“Rulers of the people and elders of Israel:

Matt 10:17-20

But beware of men, for they will deliver you up to councils and scourge you in their synagogues.

¹⁸ You will be brought before governors and kings for My sake, as a testimony to them and to the Gentiles.

¹⁹ But when they deliver you up, do not worry about how or what you should speak. For it will be given to you in that hour what you should speak;

²⁰ for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you.

4:9 If we this day are judged for a good deed *done* to a helpless man, by what means he has been made well,

4:10 Let it be known to you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by Him this man stands here before you whole.

4:11 This is the 'stone which was rejected by you builders,
which has become the chief cornerstone.

Psalm 118: 22 *The stone which the builders rejected*
Has become the chief cornerstone.

²³ This was the LORD's doing; It *is* marvellous in our eyes.

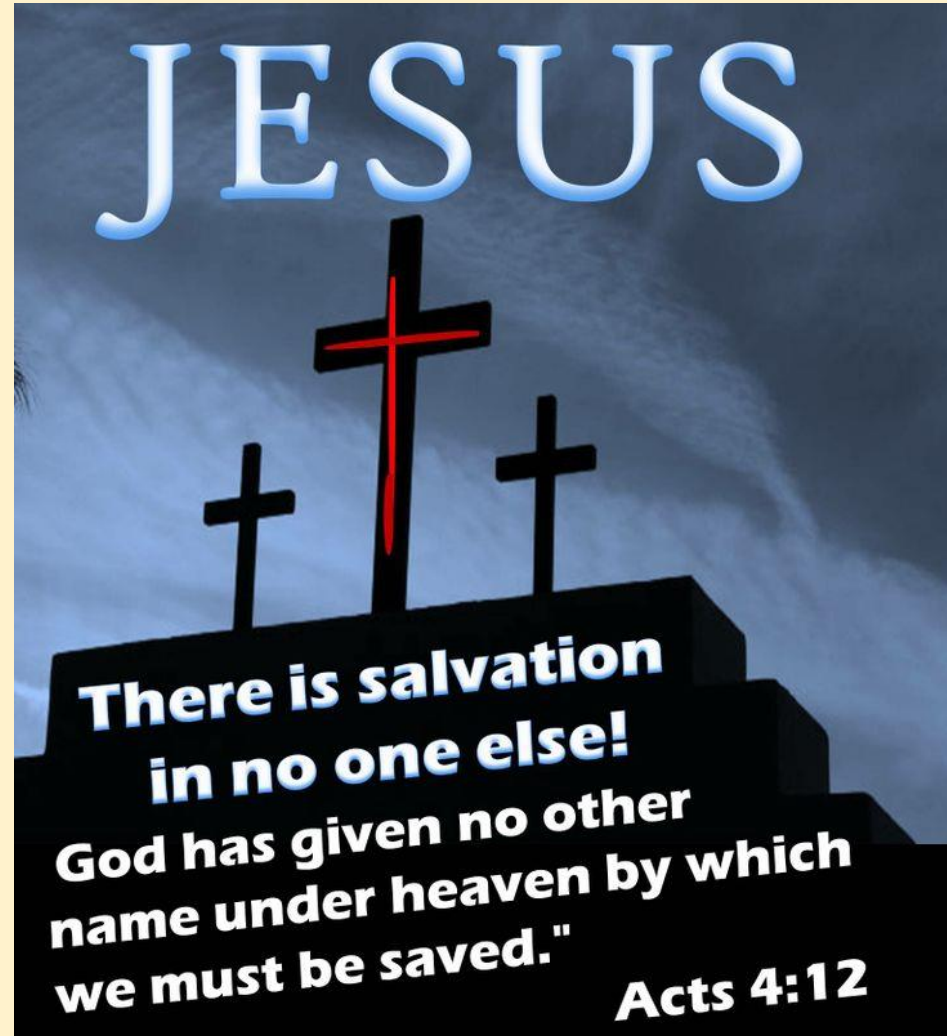
²⁴ This *is* the day the LORD has made;
We will rejoice and be glad in it.

²⁵ Save now, I pray, O LORD;

O LORD, I pray, send now prosperity.

²⁶ Blessed *is* he who comes in the name of the LORD!
We have blessed you from the house of the LORD.

4:12 Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”



4:13 Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John,
and perceived that they were uneducated
and untrained men, they marvelled.
And they realized that they had been with Jesus.

4:14 And seeing the man who had been healed standing
with them, they could say nothing against it

4:15 But when they had commanded them to go aside out
of the council, they conferred among themselves,

4:16 saying, “What shall we do to these men? For, indeed, that a notable miracle has been done through them *is* evident to all who dwell in Jerusalem, and we cannot deny *it*.”

4:17 But so that it spreads no further among the people, let us severely threaten them, that from now on they speak to no man in this name.”

4:18 So they called them and commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus

4:19 But Peter and John answered and said to them,
“Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you more than to God, you judge

4:20 For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard.

4:21 So when they had further threatened them,
they let them go, finding no way of punishing them,
because of the people, since they all glorified
God for what had been done

4:22 For the man was over forty years old on whom this
miracle of healing had been performed.

4:23 And being let go, they went to their own *companions*
and reported all that the chief
priests and elders had said to them

4:24 So when they heard that, they raised their voice to
God with one accord and said: “Lord, You *are* God, who
made heaven and earth and the sea,
and all that is in them

4:25 who by the mouth of Your servant David^[b] have said:

‘Why did the nations rage,
And the people plot vain things?

4:26 The kings of the earth took their stand, And the
rulers were gathered together Against the LORD
and against His Christ.’^[c]

Psalm 2:1-2

Why do the nations rage,
And the people plot a vain thing?

The kings of the earth set themselves,
And the rulers take counsel together,
Against the Lord and against His Anointed

4:27 For truly against Your holy Servant Jesus, whom You anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles and the people of Israel, were gathered together

4:28 to do whatever Your hand and Your purpose determined before to be done

4:29 Now, Lord, look on their threats, and grant to Your servants that with all boldness they may speak Your word

4:30 by stretching out Your hand to heal, and that signs and wonders may be done through the name of Your holy Servant Jesus.”

4:31 And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness.

4:32 Now the multitude of those who believed were of one heart and one soul; neither did anyone say that any of the things he possessed was his own, but they had all things in common

4:33 And with great power the apostles gave witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus.
And great grace was upon them all

4:34 Nor was there anyone among them who lacked; for all who were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the proceeds of the things that were sold

4:35 and laid *them* at the apostles' feet; and they distributed to each as anyone had need.

4:36 And Joses, who was also named Barnabas by the apostles (which is translated Son of Encouragement), a Levite of the country of Cyprus

4:37 having land, sold *it*, and brought the money and laid *it* at the apostles' feet.

ACTS TIMELINE

29 AD	ASCENSION	ACTS 1:9-11
29 AD	PENTECOST	ACTS 2
36 AD	STONING of STEPHEN	ACTS 7
37 AD	SAUL's CONVERSION	ACTS 9
37 ~ 40 AD	PAUL in the DESERT 3 yrs	ACTS 9:25 & GAL 1:18
38 AD	PETER to CORNELIUS	ACTS 10
41 AD	SAUL/PAUL BEGINS MINISTRY at ANTIOCH	ACTS 11:25-26
44 AD	PAUL & BARNABUS' FIRST JOURNEY TO CENTRAL TURKEY	ACTS 13
51 AD	JERUSALEM COUNCIL	ACTS 15:1- 18 & GAL 2:1-9
53 AD	PAUL on MARS HILL	ACTS 17:22
60 ~ 62 AD	PAUL in PRISON at CEASAREA	ACTS 23:11 & ACTS 26:32
62 AD	PAUL APPEALS TO ROME	ACTS 25:11
62 ~ 66 or 67 AD	PAUL in PRISON until MARTYRED	ACTS 28:16 & II TIM 4:6

PAUL MAY HAVE BEEN FREE A SHORT WHILE BETWEEN
I & II TIMOTHY
ALL DATES ARE APPROXIMATE