

Peter and John Arrested

In Jerusalem

Foundation

Bible passage : Acts 3 & 4

Acts 2 mentions signs and wonders being done through the Apostles and in chapter 3 we see an example of this when a lame beggar was amazingly healed.

Peter and John made it clear that the man had not been healed by them, but had been healed in the name of Jesus of Nazareth. Having been lame from birth, once healed the man was not only able not only to walk but to leap and he proceeded to do so praising God and so creating a bit of a stir in the Temple.

“for we cannot but speak of what we have seen and heard ”

This gave an opportunity for Peter to talk about Jesus, how the people had rejected Him and how they should repent of this and turn to Him.

However, this annoyed some of the leaders of the Jews and so they had Peter and John arrested and put in prison. The next day they had

Signs and Wonders

Christians disagree about whether signs and wonders still continue today. What seems clear is that the sort of things we see Jesus doing, were not so frequent in Acts, and have been less common through history. However, the work of the Holy Spirit has been seen in how the message about Jesus has spread despite opposition and failings, and how lives have been changed people hear the gospel, repent and believe.



Nicolas Poussin (French, *Les Andelys* 1594–1665 Rome)

opportunity to speak to the leaders and they were filled with the Holy Spirit so that they spoke bravely about Jesus and said that there is no other name under heaven given by which we must be saved (v12). The leaders didn't like this and threatened Peter and John telling them to stop spreading their message. Peter and John famously responded by saying “*Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you rather than to God, you must judge, for we cannot but speak of what we have seen and heard.*”

When they were released Peter and John met with the other disciples and prayed to God. As a result they were filled with the Holy Spirit (v31) and “continued to speak the word of God with boldness”.

Remember that only a couple of months the disciples had run away when Jesus was arrested and Peter out of fear had three times denied knowing Jesus. But now they knew that what they were saying was true, they wanted others to see **the light of Christ**, and they were no longer afraid of the consequences.



Despite threats the disciples wanted to tell what they had seen and heard so that others might believe in Jesus.