

"SHOULD WE OBEY GOD OR MEN?"

ACTS 5:17-42

I. GOD ENCOURAGED THE HEARTS OF THE APOSTLES BY SENDING A MIRACULOUS ANSWER FROM HEAVEN WITH RESPECT TO THEIR IMPRISONMENT (5:17-32)

- A. The Apostles Were Put In A Circumstance That Normally Causes God's People To Rethink Their Position (5:17-18)
- B. God Sent A Person From Heaven, Other Than A Member Of The Trinity To Release Them (5:19-20)
- C. God Allowed The Apostles To Remain Undetected In Order To Enforce His Object Lesson To The Sanhedrin (5:21-28)

II. GOD ENCOURAGED THE HEARTS OF THE APOSTLES BY THE VERY PRINCIPLE THAT THEY THEMSELVES WOULD OPERATE BY (5:29-32)

- A. Peter Stated The Principle: It Is Better To Obey God Rather Than Men, When The Demands Of Men Contradict The Things Of God (5:29)
- B. Peter Elaborates On the Conflict That Exists Between Man & God (5:30-32)

III. GOD ENCOURAGED THE HEARTS OF THE APOSTLES BY THE ENTRANCE OF A THIRD PERSONALITY WHO CONFIRMS THE PRINCIPLE THAT IT IS INDEED RIGHT TO OBEY GOD (5:33-42)

- A. Gamaliel Was The Grandson Of A Famous Rabbi Named Hillel
 1. He Was One Of The Few Who Actually Observed & Pondered The Events Of The Day (5:34-35)
 2. He Gives Two Historic Precedents (5:36-37)
 3. He Utters A Timeless Principle Supplementing Peter's (5:38-39)
- B. Despite Extreme Brutality, The Apostles Resumed Preaching (5:42)