

Praying for Boldness

Acts 4:23-31

November 1, 2020

Why do we preach an other worldly truth to a this worldly chaos?

In the face of approaching trouble where should we flee?

Fellowship (Koinonia) v 23

When trouble came, they ran to their “own companions” (NASB).

Church ought to be the place that you bring your troubles.

Thomas Manton, "There is none so tender to others as they which have received mercy themselves; that know how gently God hath dealt with them."

We need to treat each other with the grace that we have received.

Do you have your “own companions,” friends, in the church?

Prayer v 24

We always pray our theology.

O Lord

God of Creation

God of Revelation

Psalm 2

Why do the rulers unite against the Lord?

God of History

God used the united opposition of his enemies to forward his purposes

We freely journey the pathway of God’s absolute decree.

Petition v 29-30

What did they ask for? How did they pray?

Take note of their threats (Look upon them)

Grant that we may speak with boldness

Heal, give signs and wonders

Can we pray this way?

Miracles of the Bible are generally speaking clustered around 3 stages of Redemptive history

- 1) The formation of God's people in the land of Egypt
- 2) The coming of the Prophets in Elijah and Elisha's time.
- 3) The reformation of the God's people of God and the Coming of the Messiah

Signs and healings and wonders and power are the scaffolding that God erects when he is building something new, when he is entering into a new stage of revelation and redemptive history.

God, we will do our thing, and you do your thing.

We are to pray that God would grant us great boldness in preaching the Word and that God would bless the Word to build his kingdom.

Answer V 31

The answer to their prayer was immediate.

Application

Pursue genuine gracious fellowship and friends in the church.

Rest in a thorough-going confidence in the absolute sovereignty of God.

Develop a selfless devotion to fulfilling your Christian responsibilities.