HOMEWORK ACTS 6-7

*Acts 4:28-30*

*…to do whatever Your hand predestined to occur. (29) And now, Lord, take note of their threats,*

*and grant that Your bond-servants may speak Your Word with all confidence,(30) while You extend Your hand to heal, and signs and wonders take place through the name of You holy servant Jesus.*

**What Does it Say:**

To do whatever Your hand predestined. Lord take note their threats, grant your bond-servants to speak YOUR WORD with confidence, while You emend Your hand to heal, signs, wonders through the name Jesus

**What Does it Mean?**

What a great story!! I love this! I am in awe of how Peter who just a few weeks ago ran from a slave girl that looked at him sideways at night, and now he is bringing it to the Sanhedrin with power and boldness in the middle of the day! What a life transformation! That is what Jesus does. **Jesus changes everything**. Suddenly, with the filling of the Holy Spirit, self-protection is not the end all, be all.

Look what is stated in verse 28. Basically, God had this whole thing planned from the beginning, the Redemption of mankind. Jesus purchased the plan and the Holy Spirit is perfecting the plan, and making it known. God can be trusted that He knew what He was doing with Messiah. So, how much more can I trust His hand to lead me and to guide me? This is it. Peter and John, get this. God has them and nothing else matters, except getting the message out that the Messiah has come and we need to humble before Him.

Peter and John were just threatened by the Sanhedrin earlier in the chapter. This is the same Sanhedrin that sent Jesus to the cross. This same Sanhedrin can do the very same to these young men, but they are in beast mode, so full of the Spirit of the Living God that they are literally untouchable until God Himself calls them home. They get it. I wish I got it, but they get it. They are bullied, told to step down and pipe down. They are told to hide the Truth and not to speak in “The Name” anywhere ever again. I love the response of the Apostles in verse 23. They have joy, they sing praises with their friends, they continue to search out the Word of God, and find that God just keeps fulfilling His Word right before their eyes. It is thrilling and exciting that they get to witness this!

Can you imagine if the Sanhedrin sent a spy to watch where they went and what they were doing? How mad would they be to hear of this? There is nothing worse for someone in charge than to know that their veiled threat did not affect them at all, and actually produced joy! Can you even?? These men pray with their friends, what do they pray? They pray for more confidence, some versions say boldness. MORE BOLDNESS, please?!?! I think they were pretty bold already! They tell God, hey, You take note of their threats, we are not going to freak out about them, but if one healed guy sent them into a tizzy, then they basically prayed that God will multiply the miracles! More healings! More Signs! More wonders!

The Sanhedrin mostly made up of Sadducees did not believe in miracles. Their entire theological structure was going to come down in front of everyone! This is maddening! The nerve, right? BUT GOD loves them so much that He will do what it takes to get their attention. What will they do with it? That is up to them.

The Apostles said they were bond servants. I love that. These Apostles voluntarily placed themselves under the lordship of the Messiah, Jesus. They would follow Jesus. They would be disciples of Him, by choice each and every day. This is it. This is where it lies with us too. We all serve someone or something. We either serve the idols of wealth, status, tradition, religion and pride, or we choose to humbly surrender it all to Jesus. These men wanted BOLDNESS to speak the Word of God… not their opinions or ideas… they gave up their ideas, and followed Jesus.

There will always be someone, and often someone you really respect, and someone you would not expect it from… ready to extinguish your flame. Sometimes through bullying, or threats, or mockery, but it is the fool who is filled with the Holy Spirit of the Living God who is dangerous. The person who just wants more of the Holy Spirit no matter what, and lets everything else go except that. People will be intimidated by the fire of the Holy Spirit, offended by that fire and wanting to hide that fire but do not let them win out. Continue to be devoted to studying the Word, praying and meeting with other believers on fire for Jesus, so together you can burn deeper, hotter, higher and broader. The Truth will always be offensive, may it offend each of us to our knees. I pray we humble our hearts and not harden them. The choice is ours.

**What Does it Mean to Me?**

What am I praying for?

What is my biggest fear about praying for BOLDNESS in the Word of God?

When have I been bold and pressed into reliance on the Spirit of God? When did I shrink back?

How have I been bullied to douse my fire for God? When have I done the bullying?

**LIVE IT OUT**

Today, get in the Word of God and pray that I can be bold about what God has shown me. Pray that today I can allow the UNRESTRAINED Spirit of the LIVING God to fill be enough to follow.

The book I spoke about in the study on line the first night was Spiritual Profiling by Tom Hovestal. There is a link here to purchase on eBay if you would like <https://rover.ebay.com/rover/0/0/0?mpre=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.ebay.com%2Fulk%2Fitm%2F362872772871>

Here is the link the the spiritual profiling assessment I spoke about: www.spiritualprofiling,com

The Bible I spoke about is The Complete Jewish Study Bible

The Complete Jewish Study Bible: Illuminating the Jewishness of God's Word; Blue Flexisoft Edition <https://www.amazon.com/dp/1619708698/ref=cm_sw_r_cp_api_i_iOjfEbNR2V066>

Seeking Allah Finding Jesus link

<https://www.amazon.com/Seeking-Allah-Finding-Jesus-Christianity/dp/0310092647/ref=sr_1_1?crid=3NM7OJZMMEM3S&keywords=seeking+allah+finding+jesus&qid=1579607888&sprefix=seeking+allah+f%2Caps%2C163&sr=8-1>

DON FINTO’s BOOK: Your People shall be My People

<https://www.amazon.com/Your-People-Shall-Be-Christian/dp/0800797892>

Mudhouse Sabbath:

https://www.amazon.com/Mudhouse-Sabbath-Invitation-Spiritual-Discipline/dp/1557255326/ref=sr\_1\_2?keywords=book+mudhouse+sabbath&qid=1580813987&sr=8-2

If you are interested in joining the live stream for this study visit my professional FB page [www.facebook.com/kendragrahamofficial](http://www.facebook.com/kendragrahamofficial)

The Jewish Siddur (Prayer book) Minchah Prayer plus others

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