

***The Most
Valuable
Men In Town***

Acts 4:1-14

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1 And as they spake unto the people, the priests, and the captain of the temple, and the Sadducees, came upon them,

2 Being grieved that they taught the people, and preached through Jesus the resurrection from the dead.

3 And they laid hands on them, and put them in hold unto the next day: for it was now eventide.

4 Howbeit many of them which heard the word believed; and the number of the men was about five thousand.

Acts 4:1-14 - continued

5 And it came to pass on the morrow, that their rulers, and elders, and scribes,

6 And Annas the high priest, and Caiaphas, and John, and Alexander, and as many as were of the kindred of the high priest, were gathered together at Jerusalem.

7 And when they had set them in the midst, they asked, By what power, or by what name, have ye done this?

8 Then Peter, filled with the Holy Ghost, said unto them, Ye rulers of the people, and elders of Israel,

9 If we this day be examined of the good deed done to the impotent man, by what means he is made whole;

Acts 4:1-14 - continued

10 Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole.

11 This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner.

Acts 4:1-14 - continued

12 Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

13 Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus.

14 And beholding the man which was healed standing with them, they could say nothing against it.

Introduction

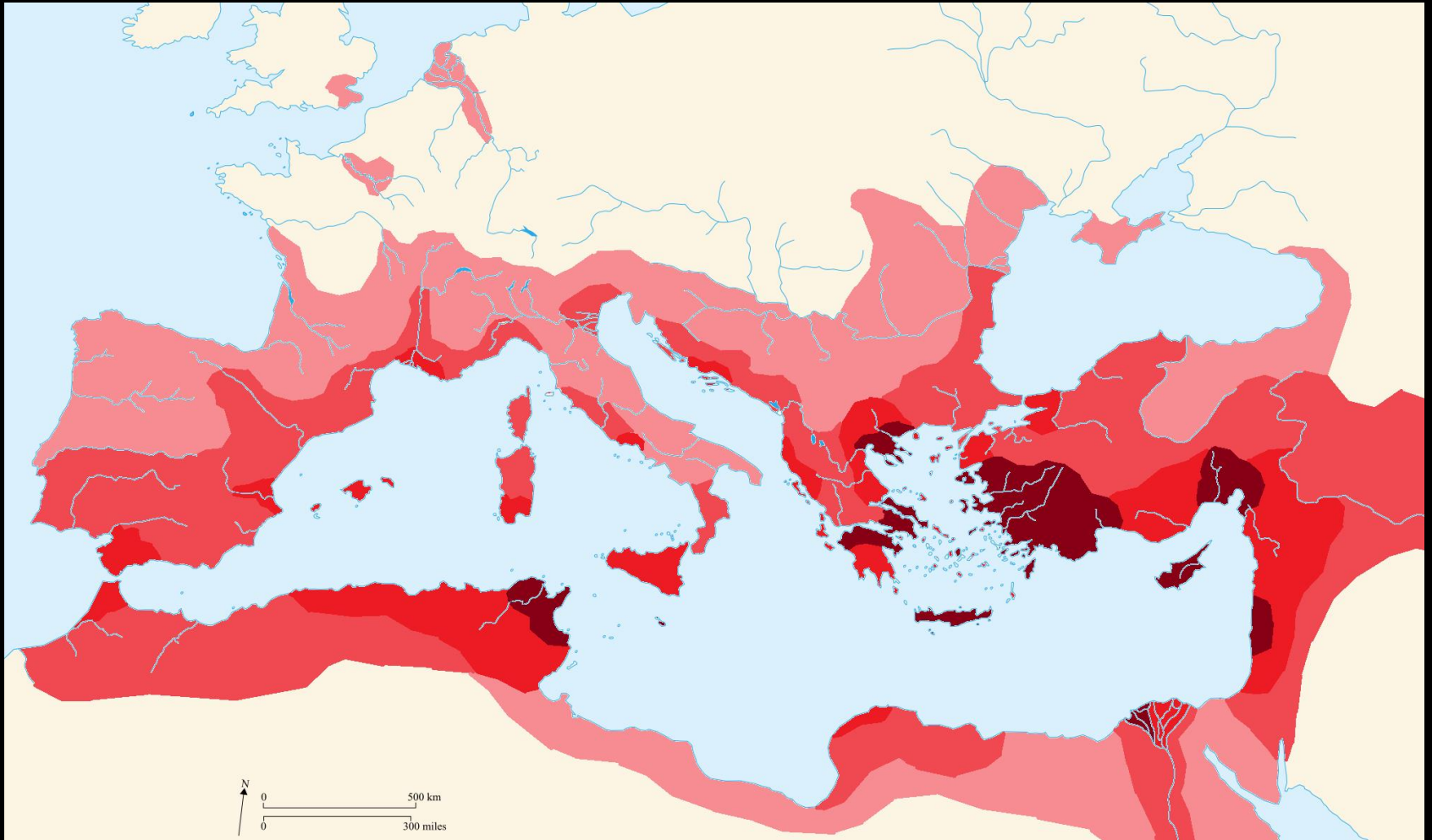
A. The priests' evaluation of Peter and John

Matthew 5:11-12

11 Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.

12 Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.

Introduction



Introduction

B. They were the most valuable men in town

2 Corinthians 4:7

But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us.

I. They Were Not Unlearned And Ignorant About The Savior (4:10)

A. They had been with Jesus and they showed it

2 Corinthians 4:11

**For we which live are always delivered unto death for
Jesus' sake, that the life also of Jesus might be made
manifest in our mortal flesh.**

I. They Were Not Unlearned And Ignorant About The Savior (4:10)

B. The world needs people who have been with Jesus

1 Peter 2:21

For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps:

1 Peter 3:15

But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:

I. They Were Not Unlearned And Ignorant About The Savior (4:10)

C. The mystery to the priests

1. They were uneducated fishermen

Psalm 119:99

I have more understanding than all my teachers: for thy testimonies are my meditation.

2. They were not theologians

Luke 12:11-12

11 And when they bring you unto the synagogues, and unto magistrates, and powers, take ye no thought how or what thing ye shall answer, or what ye shall say:

12 For the Holy Ghost shall teach you in the same hour what ye ought to say.

I. They Were Not Unlearned And Ignorant About The Savior (4:10)

**D. Look at what God can do with one who is completely
surrendered to Him**

John 14:12

**Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me,
the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works
than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.**

II. They Were Not Unlearned And Ignorant About The Scriptures (4:10-12)

A. The knowledge explosion then and now

Daniel 12:4

**But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book,
even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro,
and knowledge shall be increased.**

II. They Were Not Unlearned And Ignorant About The Scriptures (4:10-12)

B. Man's increased knowledge has only deepened his dilemma

1. Opposition to the truth

1 Timothy 6:20

O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so called:

2. Overlooking the truth

2 Timothy 3:7

Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.

II. They Were Not Unlearned And Ignorant About The Scriptures (4:10-12)

**C. These men did not know books, but they knew the
Book**

“I speak as a man of the world to men of the world; and I say to you, Search the Scriptures! The Bible is the book of all others, to be read at all ages, and in all conditions of human life; not to be read once or twice or thrice through, and then laid aside, but to be read in small portions of one or two chapters every day, and never to be intermitted, unless by some overruling necessity.”

- John Quincy Adams

II. They Were Not Unlearned And Ignorant About The Scriptures (4:10-12)

**C. These men did not know books, but they knew the
Book - continued**

2. Their Bible knowledge equipped them to serve

2 Timothy 2:15

**Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman
that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word
of truth.**

II. They Were Not Unlearned And Ignorant About The Scriptures (4:10-12)

**D. Most great universities in America founded to teach
the Bible**

**1. 106 out of the 108 first colleges were Christian
colleges**

2. Founding precept of Harvard

**“Students should be instructed in knowing God
and that Christ is the only foundation of all sound
knowledge and learning.”**

II. They Were Not Unlearned And Ignorant About The Scriptures (4:10-12)

**D. Most great universities in America founded to teach
the Bible - continued**

3. Man foolishly gets too wise for God's Book

Psalm 2:4

**He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the LORD shall
have them in derision.**

II. They Were Not Unlearned And Ignorant About The Scriptures (4:10-12)

**E. These men had a knowledge of the Old Testament and
this let them know what was happening**

Psalm 118:21-23

**21 I will praise thee: for thou hast heard me, and art
become my salvation.**

**22 The stone which the builders refused is become the
head stone of the corner.**

23 This is the LORD's doing; it is marvellous in our eyes.

III. They Were Not Unlearned And Ignorant About Salvation (4:12)

A. The importance of salvation

1. The universal need

1 Timothy 2:3-5

3 For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour;

4 Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.

5 For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;

2. The unique source

III. They Were Not Unlearned And Ignorant About Salvation (4:12)

A. The importance of salvation – continued

3. The ultimate deliverance

Hebrews 7:25

Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.

B. They saw people trapped by problems and perplexed

Psalms 107:6

Then they cried unto the LORD in their trouble, and he delivered them out of their distresses.

**You Can Be The Most Valuable Person
In Your Area**