

“Against the Wind”

Unhindered; The Birth of the Church - Part 10

March 21, 2021

II Timothy 3:12 (Emphasis added) - “Everyone who wants to live as God desires, in Christ Jesus, **WILL BE PERSECUTED.**”

Acts 4:1-23

STORM SURVIVAL STRATEGIES

A. Press against our _____ .

Acts 4:8-10

Matthew 10:32-33 - “Whoever acknowledges me before others, I will also acknowledge before my Father in heaven. **33** But whoever disowns me before others, I will disown before my Father in heaven.”

B. Leverage the _____ of Jesus.

Hebrews 1:3- “He (Jesus) is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power.”

Acts 4:13 (Emphasis added) – “When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and they took note that these men had **BEEN WITH JESUS.**”

C. Listen to the appropriate _____.

Acts 4:18-20

John 10:2ff (Emphasis added) – “The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³ The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep **LISTEN TO HIS VOICE**. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴ When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they **KNOW HIS VOICE**. . . V:14 “I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me.”

D. Gather with _____.

Acts 4:23

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 – “Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: ¹⁰ If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up. ¹¹ Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm. But how can one keep warm alone? ¹² Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. ¹³ A cord of three strands is not quickly broken”

Conclusion:

Matthew 5:10-12 – “Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ¹¹ “Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

Acts 4:12 – “Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.”