

Title | The Christian Oxymoron

Series | THE CHURCH THAT CHANGED THE WORLD

Text | Acts 5:12-42

By | Bob Kerrey

Date | March 31, 2019

Acts 5:12 Now many signs and wonders were regularly done among the people by the hands of the apostles. . . . 17 But the high priest rose up, and all who were with him (that is, the party of the Sadducees), and filled with jealousy 18 they arrested the apostles and put them in the public prison. . . . 27 And when they had brought them, they set them before the council. And the high priest questioned them, 28 saying, "We strictly charged you not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you intend to bring this man's blood upon us." . . . 33 . . . they were enraged and wanted to kill them. 34 But a Pharisee in the council named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law held in honor by all the people, stood up and gave orders to put the men outside for a little while. . . . 40 and when they had called in the apostles, they beat them and charged them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. 41 Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name. 42 And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching that the Christ is Jesus. ESV

Big Idea:

Text questions during the sermon: 623-850-8809

Sermon Notes

Acts 5:41

Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name.

ESV

For Reflection & Application:

Monday:

Read Acts 5:12-42. In verse 41, it says that the apostles were "rejoicing." Considering they had just been threatened and beaten and shamed, why would they be rejoicing? How can you follow their example?

Tuesday:

Read Luke 6:22-23. It is likely that the apostles had this teaching in mind when they suffered dishonor in Acts 5. How does this shed light on the reason for their rejoicing?

Wednesday:

Read 1 Peter 1:3-7. The apostle Peter wrote these words after his own experience of suffering in Acts 5:12-42. What's the connection?

Thursday:

Read 1 Peter 4:13. The apostle Peter wrote these words after his own experience of suffering in Acts 5:12-42. What's the connection?

Friday:

If it is true that sacred suffering scores points with God, how can you apply this idea to your life today? Is suffering for doing good ever worthless?

Daily Prayer:

Thank you, Lord, that when I suffer for doing what you have called me to do, you count me worthy, and in doing so, you give me reason to rejoice and keep going.

Amen.