





And as they were speaking to the people, the priests and the captain of the temple and the Sadducees came upon them, ² greatly annoyed because they were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead. ³ And they arrested them and put them in custody until the next day, for it was already evening. ⁴ But many of those who had heard the word believed, and the number of the men came to about five thousand.

Acts 4:1 - 22

⁵On the next day their rulers and elders and scribes gathered together in Jerusalem, ⁶with Annas the high priest and Caiaphas and John and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. ⁷And when they had set them in the midst, they inquired, “By what power or by what name did you do this?”

Acts 4:1 - 22

⁸ Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders, ⁹ if we are being examined today concerning a good deed done to a crippled man, by what means this man has been healed, ¹⁰ let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead—by him this man is standing before you well. ¹¹ This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone.

¹² And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

¹³ Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated, common men, they were astonished. And they recognized that they had been with Jesus. ¹⁴ But seeing the man who was healed standing beside them, they had nothing to say in opposition.

Acts 4:1 - 22

¹⁵ But when they had commanded them to leave the council, they conferred with one another, ¹⁶ saying, “What shall we do with these men? For that a notable sign has been performed through them is evident to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and we cannot deny it. ¹⁷ But in order that it may spread no further among the people, let us warn them to speak no more to anyone in this name.” ¹⁸ So they called them and charged them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus.

Acts 4:1 - 22

¹⁹ But Peter and John answered them, “Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you rather than to God, you must judge, ²⁰ for we cannot but speak of what we have seen and heard.” ²¹ And when they had further threatened them, they let them go, finding no way to punish them, because of the people, for all were praising God for what had happened. ²² For the man on whom this sign of healing was performed was more than forty years old.



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¹³ Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated, common men, they were astonished. **And they recognized that they had been with Jesus.** ¹⁴ But seeing the man who was healed standing beside them, they had nothing to say in opposition.

Acts 4:1 - 22

Everyone could tell that they had been with Jesus.

F.O.C

Followers of Christ

A follower of Christ:

1. is Filled with the Holy Spirit
2. Operates on the truth and authority of Christ
3. Cannot but declare Christ.

Context: Acts 3

⁶ But Peter said, “I have no silver and gold, but what I do have I give to you. **In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk!**” ⁷ And he took him by the right hand and raised him up, and immediately his feet and ankles were made strong. ⁸ And leaping up, he stood and began to walk, and entered the temple with them, walking and leaping and praising God.

A man was just healed!

And as they were speaking to the people, the priests and the captain of the temple and the Sadducees came upon them, ² **greatly annoyed because they were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead.** ³ And they arrested them and put them in custody until the next day, for it was already evening.

Two very distinct groups:

Sanhedrin and the priests

VS

Peter and John

7 And when they had set them in the midst, they inquired, “By what power or by what name did you do this?”

They were questioning the healing.

⁹ if we are being examined today **concerning a good deed** done to a crippled man, by what means this man has been healed,

VS

¹⁷ But in order that it may spread no further among the people, let us warn them to speak no more to anyone in this name.” ¹⁸ So they called them and **charged them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus.**

What the Sanhedrin was really doing was holding on to their man-made power.

A follower of Christ:

1. is **Filled with the Holy Spirit**
2. **Operates on the truth and authority of Christ**
3. **Cannot but declare Christ.**

7 And when they had set them in the midst, they inquired, “By what power or by what name did you do this?” 8 Then Peter, **filled with the Holy Spirit**, said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders,

In contrast, Peter was clearly filled with the Holy Spirit.

This was Peter who:

- Denied Christ publicly
- Ran away and fled

Peter got all that courage because
he was **filled with the Holy Spirit.**

Being filled with the Holy Spirit
means we are **not the same** as
we once were.

‘If my life is surrendered to God, all is well. Let me not grab it back, as though it were in peril in His hand but would be safer in mine!’

Elisabeth Elliot

⁸ Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders, ⁹ if we are being examined today concerning a good deed done to a crippled man, **by what** means this man has been healed, ¹⁰ let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that **by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth**, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead—**by him** this man is standing before you well.

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And as they were speaking to the people, the **priests** and the captain of the temple and the Sadducees came upon them, ² greatly annoyed because they were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead...

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And as they were speaking to the people, the **priests** and **the captain of the temple** and the Sadducees came upon them, ² greatly annoyed because they were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead...“By what power or by what name did you do this?”

There is a play on authority here.

The real issue is not the healing of the man.

The real issue here is that those 'in authority' were insulted.



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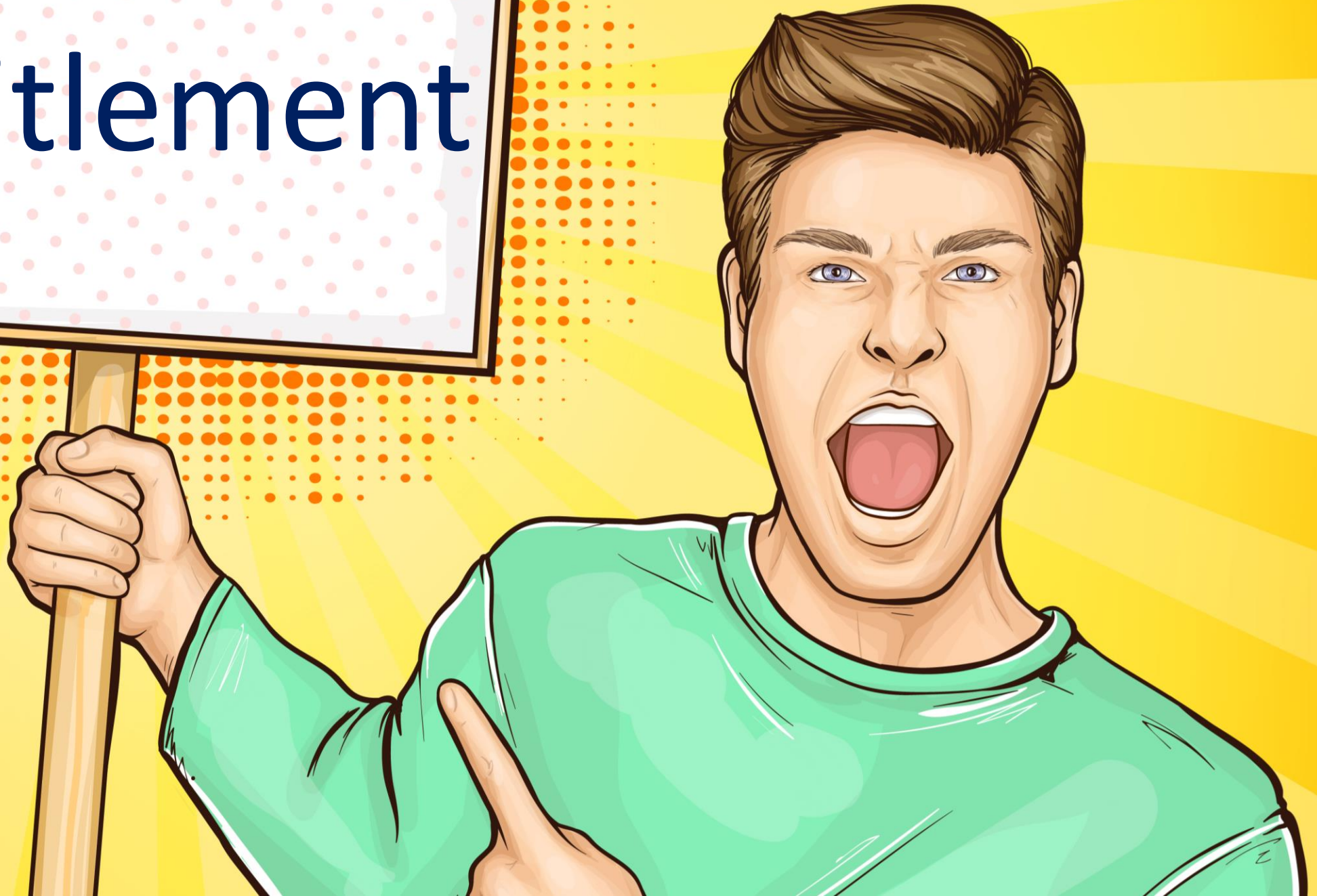
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OPERATES ON THE TRUTH AND AUTHORITY OF GOD

Peter stood on the authority of
God and spoke the truth.

Only by the name of Jesus was
the man healed.

Entitlement



Peter and John knew that the only way they could have healed that man was because of Jesus.

OPERATES ON THE TRUTH AND AUTHORITY OF GOD

A follower of Christ operates on
the truth and authority of God.

A follower of Christ:

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2. Operates on the truth and authority of Christ
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¹⁹ But Peter and John answered them, “Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you rather than to God, you must judge, ²⁰ **for we cannot but speak of what we have seen and heard.**” ²¹ And when they had further threatened them, they let them go, finding no way to punish them, because of the people, for all were praising God for what had happened.

¹⁵ But when they had commanded them to leave the council, they conferred with one another, ¹⁶ saying, “What shall we do with these men? For that a notable sign has been performed through them is evident to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, **and we cannot deny it.**”

Even the Sanhedrin couldn't deny it!

Two very different responses:

One punished, the other praised.

It's easy to say:
I am a follower of Christ.

But it's very difficult to live it out.

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Operate on the truth and
authority of Christ
Cannot but declare Christ.**

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