

## SIGNS AND WONDERS FOLLOWED BY PERSECUTION

(Acts 5:12-25)

### I. THE INFANCY AND THE GROWTH OF THE CHURCH IN JERUSALEM (3-7)

#### A. The Hypocrisy of Ananias and Sapphira within the Church (5:1-11)

#### B. The Early Church Pattern for Evangelism (5:12-16)

1. God had certainly answered the prayer offered back in 4:29 to grant “*all \_\_\_\_\_ to speak your Word,*” and in 4:30 “*that \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ may be done through the name*” of Jesus. (v. 12)
2. Outsiders were somewhat apprehensive in joining the Church, perhaps because of the recent \_\_\_\_\_ upon two members (5:1-11) or because of the rise in \_\_\_\_\_. (v. 13)
3. Despite this, the apostles’ powerful healing ministry made a deep \_\_\_\_\_ on the Jewish people, and many \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ were being saved. (v. 14)
4. People were coming from the outlying areas outside of Jerusalem, bringing their \_\_\_\_\_ to be healed and their \_\_\_\_\_ to be exorcised, “*and they were \_\_\_\_\_.*” (vv. 15-16)

#### C. The Apostles Arrested by the Sanhedrin (5:17-25)

1. While the apostles were filled with the Holy Spirit, the religious leaders were filled with \_\_\_\_\_ and or \_\_\_\_\_, and had all of them arrested. (vv. 17-18)

2. At night the Lord sent an angel who opened the prison doors and commanded them to “\_\_\_\_\_ in the temple \_\_\_\_\_ to the people all the words of this life.” (vv. 19-20)

\* What is meant by the phrase, “*the words of this life*”

3. The apostles did as they were \_\_\_\_\_; at daybreak they entered the temple complex and found an audience and began \_\_\_\_\_ them. (v. 21a)

\* Are we heeding the biblical instruction to not simply waste our lives on ourselves, or are we investing it in what really matters?

4. Luke’s account here of the temple police and the Sanhedrin’s confusion and bewilderment are rather comical...

a. The Sanhedrin was preparing their court to judge \_\_\_\_\_ they did \_\_\_\_\_ have. (v. 21b)

b. The prison guards were dutifully keeping \_\_\_\_\_ prison cells \_\_\_\_\_. (vv. 22-23)

c. While the captain of the temple guard, and the Sanhedrin were trying to figure out what happened, they were told the apostles were back where they started, \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_. (vv. 24-25)

\* What can you learn from all this?