

Where's Your Chair?

Acts 4 13-22



Let integrity and uprightness preserve me, for my hope has been in you.
Psalm 25:20

Praising:

Living stones, by God appointed
each to his allotted place,
kings and priests, by God
anointed,
shall ye not declare his grace?
Ye, a royal generation,
tell the tidings of your birth,
tidings of a new creation
to an old and weary earth.

Reading:

Acts 4:13-22

The temple authorities pronounce
on Peter and John

Like Jesus before them, the
apostles were considered
uneducated because they lacked
rabbinical training. The temple
authorities are genuinely taken
aback by the confidence of Peter
and John's preaching. Their

problem is the lame man. They
cannot make him vanish, they
cannot undo the miracle he
received and they cannot erase
the memories of those who
witnessed it. The authorities have
only one option, and that is to try
and put an stop to the apostles
speaking publicly about Jesus.
Although there is no mention of
specific threats or sanctions, the
council issue their prohibition in
firm and uncompromising terms
and there is plainly menace
behind the words. And yet they
ask of Peter and John the one
thing they simply cannot do. No
follower of Christ could ever
undertake not to speak of the
Saviour.

Listening:

Praying:

We bring to the Father in prayer

- those who worship and
witness to Christ in fear of
their lives
- those who have been abused,
attacked or in any way
disadvantaged for their faith
- those who speak of Jesus and
receive ridicule, mockery and
derision for doing so

Father: Peter and John seized
the moment for Christ regardless
of the consequences. Grant me a
measure of their boldness, since
my only worry is what other
people may think of me. Amen

Doing: