

SUNDAY, JULY 21, 2019

MORNING MESSAGE

“The Church Under Attack”

Acts 5:17-42

- I. THE INDIGNANT ATTACK (vv.17-25)
  - A. The apostles were detained (vv.17-18)
  - B. The apostles were delivered (vv.19-21a)
  - C. The apostles were discovered (vv.21b-25)
- II. THE INTIMIDATING ATTACK (vv.26-33)
  - A. The apostles were rebuked (vv.26-28)
  - B. The apostles were resilient (vv.29-33)
- III. THE INDIFFERENT ATTACK (vv.33-42)
  - A. The apostles were in danger (v.33)
    1. The religious leaders were “cut to the heart”
      - a. The Greek literally means to cut something in two
      - b. The same word is found in Acts 7:54, “When they heard these things they were cut to the heart”
      - c. They were not persuaded, but provoked
    2. It cost these men to stand for Jesus
  - B. The apostles were defended (vv.34-40)
    1. A man named Gamaliel stood up to defend the apostles
      - a. He reminded them of two other men: Theudas and Judas of Galilee
      - b. Although Gamaliel’s defense saved the apostles for the moment, his logic was faulty: (1) some movements of men have millions of followers; (2) it is dangerous to be indifferent
  - C. The apostles departed (vv.41-42)
    1. They departed rejoicing
      - a. Matthew 5:10-11, “Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake”