

Series: The Book of Acts: Growth Against All Odds

Sermon: The Nations Rage But Christ Is King

Scripture: Acts 4:23-31

Teacher: Caleb Click

Dates: January 18/19, 2020

Acts 4:23-31 (ESV)

²³ *When they were released, they went to their friends and reported what the chief priests and the elders had said to them.*

²⁴ *And when they heard it, they lifted their voices together to God and said, “Sovereign Lord, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and everything in them,*

²⁵ *who through the mouth of our father David, your servant, said by the Holy Spirit, ““Why did the Gentiles rage, and the peoples plot in vain?*

²⁶ *The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers were gathered together, against the Lord and against his Anointed’—*

²⁷ *for truly in this city there were gathered together against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel,*

²⁸ *to do whatever your hand and your plan had predestined to take place.*

²⁹ *And now, Lord, look upon their threats and grant to your servants to continue to speak your word with all boldness,*

³⁰ *while you stretch out your hand to heal, and signs and wonders are performed through the name of your holy servant Jesus.”*

³¹ *And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the word of God with boldness.*

I. Remember our God (vs. 24-28)

a. Creator (vs. 24)

b. Revealer (vs. 25-27)

“They believed that when David sang that psalm, he sang better than he knew, and fuller than he thought; that behind the singer was the inspiring Spirit; and that at the back of the wisdom that foresaw human events, was God himself.” – G. Campbell Morgan, “The Acts of the Apostles,” p. 130.

c. King (vs. 25, 28)

II. Embrace our God (29-31)

“By the grace of God, I will be together with my wife, my children, and my colleagues ... [But] if the opportunity has not been granted, maybe it is the will of God ... Be patient, don’t cry, don’t worry. But thank God for everything ... I believe that He who made them to act in such a way is still alive and will make all arrangements. I have never been discouraged, because all conditions that one finds himself [are] in the hands of God — God who made them to take care of me and to leave [me with] my life.” — Lawan Andimi, “Pastor Turns Terrorist Hostage Video into Testimony” in *Christianity Today* (January 13, 2020)

“From the lion’s den, he said to death: ‘To hell with you, I’m not afraid.’” — Gideon Para-Mallam, “Pastor Turns Terrorist Hostage Video into Testimony” in *Christianity Today* (January 13, 2020)