



# New Hebron Missionary Baptist Church

[newhebronlr.org](http://newhebronlr.org)

Pastor Rodney E. Smith, Sr.  
Bible Study

*"...from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which  
are able to make thee wise unto salvation..."*  
(2 Tim. 3:15)

## Biblical Boldness

{Acts 4:13}

Persecution is defined as hostility and ill-treatment, especially because of race, political, or religious beliefs, causing the persecuted person to suffer because of their belief. And so chapter 4 of Acts is more than a historical record. It is a template for all disciples of Jesus to follow when (*not if*) persecution comes. Acts 4 is one of those chapters in which we should spend time meditating and soaking up the truths, so that they may become part of our lives. Peter and John's response to persecution teaches us how we are to respond to it and it gives us an example of biblical boldness.

**v.13)** *"Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus."*

- God desires for us to become imitators of men like Peter and John, so that we can weather the waves of persecution that are sure to come our way. And here we see the beginning of the waves of persecution crashing against the Body of Christ.
  
- Let's look at the factors that lead up to this event:
- Chapter 3:1 – Peter and John go to the Temple to pray.
- Chapter 3:2 – They are confronted by a cripple beggar who asks for money.
- Chapter 3:6 – Peter instantly heals the man.
- Chapter 3:11 – A huge crowd sees this man come into the Temple and they gather together on Solomon's Porch and Peter begins preaching the Word of God.
- Chapter 3:12-26 – Peter preaches to the crowd.
- Chapter 4:1 – Peter and John get the attention of the enemies of Christ.
- Chapter 4:2,3 – Their preaching was not well received and because these groups had almost unlimited power in the Temple they were thrown in jail.
- Chapter 4:4 – In spite of their efforts the Word of God was not impotent. God will win every time. {2 Tim. 2:8,9}

