



Welcome to our Remote Service

Sunday 5th July 2020

Acts – the Unstoppable word of God

Welcome: David Horrocks

Song:

1. Christ, whose glory fills the skies,
Christ, the true, the only light,
Sun of righteousness, arise,
Triumph o'er the shades of night:
Day-spring from on high, be near;
Day-star in my heart appear.

3. Visit then this soul of mine;
Pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
Fill me, radiancy divine;
Scatter all my unbelief;
More and more Thyself display,
Shining to the perfect day.

2. Dark and cheerless is the morn
Unaccompanied by Thee;
Joyless is the day's return,
Till Thy mercy's beams I see;
Till they inward light impart,
Cheer my eyes, and warm my heart.

Charles Wesley (d1788) / Arr. Havergal (d.1870)



Question 18

**Will God allow our disobedience
and idolatry to go unpunished?**



Confession:

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against You in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry
and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of Your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us,
forgive us all that is past;
and grant that we may serve You in newness of life
to the glory of Your name. Amen.**

Song:

1. No one is good

No one is holy before God.

I need someone to cleanse me.

No one is pure

No one is righteous in Your sight.

I need someone to save me.

But I'm so glad You died and rose again
for helpless sinners like me.

What a mighty, mighty, Saviour You are.

What a mighty, mighty Saviour You are.

You can wash away my sin.

You can change my heart within.

What a mighty, mighty Saviour You are.

2. Sin is too strong

for me to conquer on my own.

I need someone to help me.

I am too weak.

I cannot change my evil heart.

I need someone to save me.

But I'm so glad You died and rose again
for helpless sinners like me.

What a mighty, mighty, Saviour You are...

Mark Altrogge

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Prayers: Simon Allcock

Reading: Acts 5:12-42 Rachel Osborne

¹² The apostles performed many signs and wonders among the people. And all the believers used to meet together in Solomon's Colonnade. ¹³ No one else dared join them, even though they were highly regarded by the people. ¹⁴ Nevertheless, more and more men and women believed in the Lord and were added to their number. ¹⁵ As a result, people brought the sick into the streets and laid them on beds and mats so that at least Peter's shadow might fall on some of them as he passed by. ¹⁶ Crowds gathered also from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing their sick and those tormented by impure spirits, and all of them were healed.

¹⁷ Then the high priest and all his associates, who were members of the party of the Sadducees, were filled with jealousy. ¹⁸ They arrested the apostles and put them in the public jail. ¹⁹ But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the doors of the jail and brought them out. ²⁰ "Go, stand in the temple courts," he said, "and tell the people all about this new life."

²¹ At daybreak they entered the temple courts, as they had been told, and began to teach the people.

When the high priest and his associates arrived, they called together the Sanhedrin—the full assembly of the elders of Israel—and sent to the jail for the apostles. ²² But on arriving at the jail, the officers did not find them there. So they went back and reported, ²³ "We found the jail securely locked, with the guards standing at the doors; but when we opened them, we found no one inside." ²⁴ On hearing this report, the captain of the temple guard and the chief priests were at a loss, wondering what this might lead to.

²⁵ Then someone came and said, "Look! The men you put in jail are standing in the temple courts teaching the people." ²⁶ At that, the captain went with his officers and brought the apostles. They did not use force, because they feared that the people would stone them.

²⁷ The apostles were brought in and made to appear before the Sanhedrin to be questioned by the high priest. ²⁸ "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name," he said. "Yet you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and are determined to make us guilty of this man's blood."

²⁹ Peter and the other apostles replied: “We must obey God rather than human beings!

³⁰ The God of our ancestors raised Jesus from the dead—whom you killed by hanging him on a cross. ³¹ God exalted him to his own right hand as Prince and Savior that he might bring Israel to repentance and forgive their sins. ³² We are witnesses of these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him.”

³³ When they heard this, they were furious and wanted to put them to death. ³⁴ But a Pharisee named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law, who was honored by all the people, stood up in the Sanhedrin and ordered that the men be put outside for a little while. ³⁵ Then he addressed the Sanhedrin: “Men of Israel, consider carefully what you intend to do to these men. ³⁶ Some time ago Theudas appeared, claiming to be somebody, and about four hundred men rallied to him. He was killed, all his followers were dispersed, and it all came to nothing. ³⁷ After him, Judas the Galilean appeared in the days of the census and led a band of people in revolt. He too was killed, and all his followers were scattered.

³⁸ Therefore, in the present case I advise you: Leave these men alone! Let them go! For if their purpose or activity is of human origin, it will fail. ³⁹ But if it is from God, you will not be able to stop these men; you will only find yourselves fighting against God.”

⁴⁰ His speech persuaded them. They called the apostles in and had them flogged. Then they ordered them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go.

⁴¹ The apostles left the Sanhedrin, rejoicing because they had been counted worthy of suffering disgrace for the Name. ⁴² Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, they never stopped teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Messiah.

Song:

1. When I fear my faith will fail
Christ will hold me fast
When the tempter would prevail
He will hold me fast
I could never keep my hold
Through life's fearful path
For my love is often cold
He must hold me fast

*He will hold me fast
He will hold me fast
For my Saviour loves me so
He will hold me fast*

2. Those He saves are His delight
Christ will hold me fast
Precious in His holy sight
He will hold me fast
He'll not let my soul be lost
His promises shall last
Bought by Him at such a cost
He will hold me fast

He will hold me fast...

3. For my life He bled and died
Christ will hold me fast
Justice has been satisfied
He will hold me fast
Raised with Him to endless life
He will hold me fast
Till our faith is turned to sight
When he comes at last

*He will hold me fast...
He will hold me fast...*

Talk: Julian Bidgood

Song:

1. Your glorious cause, O God,
Engages our hearts,
May Jesus Christ be known
Wherever we are.
We ask not for ourselves,
But for Your renown,
The cross has saved us so we pray,
'Your kingdom come'.

*Let Your kingdom come,
Let Your will be done,
So that everyone might know Your Name.
Let Your song be heard,
Everywhere on earth,
Till Your sovereign work on earth is done.
Let Your kingdom come.*

2. Give us Your strength, O God,
And courage to speak,
Perform Your wondrous deeds
Through those who are weak.
Lord use us as You want,
Whatever the test,
By grace we'll preach Your gospel till
Our dying breath.

Let Your kingdom come...

Bob Kauflin

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Final Prayer

Next Week

We continue our series 'Acts – the Unstoppable word of God' and Alex Richardson, our mission partner in Russia, will be speaking on Acts 6:1-7.

Question 18 answer: No, God is righteously angry with our sins and will punish them both in this life, and in the life to come.



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