

## Talk is Cheap

May 25, 2024

Let us open our bibles to the word of G-d Acts chapter 4; Peter and John are taken into custody by the Sanhedrin for preaching and teaching in the name of Yeshua. Why, because they were not recognized by the religious authority of their day and that same religious authority didn't recognize Yeshua as anything other than a bad memory.

Peter and John were not ordained by those that were in the position of doing such things, they were uneducated and not trained in the knowledge of the ways of G-d as perceived by the qualified religious authority so therefore what right have they to heal the blind, the sick or crippled or even speak in the name of G-d. How dare they do such a thing. I wonder where Peter and John got such an idea of preaching in the name of YHVH?

We find where they received that authority in Mark 16.

### Mark 16:15-18

**15** And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. **16** Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned. )

**17** And these signs will accompany those who believe: In My name they will drive out demons; they will speak in new tongues; **18** they will pick up snakes with their hands, and if they drink any deadly poison, it will not harm them; they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will be made well."

Could it be that the spiritual leadership was a bit angry and or envious? Can we say they were hypocrites. They were exposed for what they were.

And therefore Peter and John were arrested. Now some might think, how could those within a church or synagogue arrest someone that they disagreed with when it came to doing the work of G-d whether they had formal training or not as long as it reflected the truth of G-d.. Go study the history of the Christian church of England. Or the Catholic church. Even today there are some denominations that don't allow their members, to think and or consider what the word of G-d really means.

Now where have we heard those words before; oh that's right just last week for all those that attended.

Now who were the Sanhedrin?

The **Sanhedrin** was a legislative and judicial assembly of either 23 or 71 elders, existing at both a local and central level in the ancient [Land of Israel](#).

A lesser Sanhedrin of 23 judges was appointed to sit as a tribunal in each city, but there was only supposed to be one Great Sanhedrin of 71 judges, which among other roles acted as a [supreme court](#), taking appeals from cases which were decided by lesser courts. Consider how our court system works or should I say is suppose to work.

Note: In general usage, *the Sanhedrin* without a qualifier normally refers to the Great

Sanhedrin, which was presided over by the *Nasi*, who functioned as its head or representing president, and was a member of the court; the *Av Beit Din* or the chief of the court, who was second to the *nasi*; and 69 general members.

Note: **Nasi** (Hebrew: נָשִׂיא, romanized: *nāśī*) is a title meaning "prince" in Biblical Hebrew, "Prince [of the Sanhedrin]" in Mishnaic Hebrew. Certain great figures from Jewish history have the title, including Judah ha-Nasi,[1] who was the chief redactor of the Mishnah as well as nasi of the Sanhedrin.

In Modern Hebrew, its meaning has changed to "president".

[Sanhedrin - Wikipedia](#)

[Nasi \(Hebrew title\) - Wikipedia](#)

So now both Peter and John are pulled into this Supreme court of the Sanhedrin; how do we know it is the supreme court, and not a lower court of 23.

Acts 4:5-7 **5** The next day the rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, **6** Along with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, Alexander, and many others from the high priest's family. **7** They had Peter and John brought in and began to question them: "By what power or what name did you do this?"

We know by what power and name they did these things in. And if they within this body of Priests, elders and scribes really were holy men and faithful to G-d and doing the work of G-d they would know also. There are all kinds of corruption with man and their desires of self serving.

What was their crime, Peter and John, it must have been something horrendous, they healed a lame man in the name of Jesus, that was begging at the temple steps, so why such a fuss with such a miraculous act of kindness.

This is what those that are appointed by G-d are suppose to do.

When an individual has been given or taken on some responsibility that turns out to be incompetent (in this case the local spiritual authority) they attempt to make it look like another has done some wrong doing or has usurped their authority.

This is what this court of religious leaders are trying to do with Peter and John, but what is Peters response.

**Acts 4:8-12** Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers and elders of the people! **9** If we are being examined today about a kind service to a man who was lame, to determine how he was healed, **10** then let this be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel: It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed.

**11** This Jesus is 'the stone you builders rejected, which has become the chief cornerstone.'

**12** Salvation exists in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved."

Or spiritually and physically healed. My words and thoughts.

We can see what is happening to both Peter and John by the Sanhedrin, they insist that both these men have no understanding of G-d and His ways, after all neither of them have spent any time within the confines of the Sanhedrin or the accepted teachers of the word of G-d. Remember, many of those under the authority of G-d and have been given the responsibility of church leadership, have refused to believe in Yeshua, the Son of G-d. Back then and still today.

Peter and John have no formal training from the authority within this group of priest and elders that surround them at this court where they are being judged for some perceived wrong doing. The only wrong here, is the failure of this body of spiritual leadership in their responsibility of G-d's work.

Peter and John are doing what they have been instructed to do and not be self serving.

How many here today have been told as to what right do you have to speak the words of G-d to another or to make a judgment of ones lifestyle choices of which they insist that you accept.

Responsibility, this is something that is given to another in their job when it is assigned and if things go well one is given more responsibility and much more is expected of that individual. It comes with the territory.

Peter and John did a good thing in the healing of this lame man outside of the temple where he was begging for money, begging for that which would provide his sustenance for that day. Some who passed would have dropped a coin or two in his hands, while others would have looked upon him with disgust and do nothing.

And I'll go out on a limb here (no pun intended) that those within the synagogue, those that were given the responsibility to show and have mercy and love upon those less fortunate; walked on by without even looking down.

How could I even come to such a thought you might ask. What man of G-d would ignore such a thing?

**Luke chapter 10:30-35 A man asked Yeshua, who is my neighbor.**

**30** In reply Jesus said: "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he was attacked by robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. **31** A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. **32** So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. **33** But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. **34** He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him. **35** The next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Look after him,' he said, 'and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.'

A stranger, an inn keeper, two people that did not know this man that had been beaten and robbed, gave of themselves to see to the welfare of this individual.

Was this just a story that Yeshua told to give meaning to the one that asked the question, or did it really happen?

Regardless it doesn't change the fact of the story that a priest and a Levite, both went out of their way (literally) and ignored the needs of this individual instead of showing mercy upon him.

Now that's not to say they all did, but in this case with the lame man outside of the synagogue I believe that is what may have happened with those there that day. Why do I believe that, because their authority to speak and do those things of G-d were being threatened by two nobody's. That is where their focus was. It should have been focused on doing the work of G-d.

Peter and John were not given their approval for doing such things especially in the name of Jesus (of whom the governing body did not believe to be The Son of G-d) and that the spiritual leadership refused to accept as truth. Even after knowing of the miracles that happened. They did as G-d gave them the authority to do.

Ever pass by someone that asked for a handout at a store or street island at the stoplight. What put them there, should I give them something or not. Are they there due to circumstances or are they panhandling because they either don't want to work or are on drugs. One never knows.

### **Hebrews 13:2**

2Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have entertained angels without knowing it.

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By a kind act we may never know if what we bless another with if good or bad may come of it, but that is not for us to decide. If you bless someone with a monetary gift or even are able to supply them for a need they may have, you in turn are credited with it by G-d as righteousness, kindness, love of your neighbor.

It's right up there with; if one can't forgive another for a transgression against them, than how can one expect forgiveness from G-d the Father?

### **Matthew 6:14-15**

14For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. 15 But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive you.

Peter and John did what G-d expected them to do, they used the authority that was given them and healed a lame man in the name of Jesus, they were arrested; twice, once for the healing of this lame man and than told not to preach in the name of Jesus, and then they were put into prison because they went right out and begin preaching again in the name of Jesus.

Do you think that the spiritual authority was concerned that they may lose their standing within the community. How concerned do you believe they may have been when they called for both Peter and John to come before them for more punishment at their hands, and finding out that they (Peter and John) were not sitting in that cell crying and worried about what would be done to them.

### **Acts 5:22-23**

**22**But on arriving at the jail, the officers did not find them there. So they returned with the report: **23**“We found the jail securely locked, with the guards posted at the doors; but when we opened them, we found no one inside.”

Where was Peter and John; in the temple. Doing what?

#### **Acts 5:19-21**

**19**But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the doors of the jail and brought them out, saying, **20**“Go, stand in the temple courts and tell the people the full message of this new life.”

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

Hard headed leadership, one would think by this time that they (the priests and others) whom are supposed to be teaching the truth of G-D's word to the people, would get a clue that they were going up against a power of which they would not win against. They thought they had all the power from G-d to do as they saw fit to do.

How many today believe they can just pervert G-D's ways and there not be any consequences. Reminds me of a certain administration today and several churches. Including those that say they speak and teach G-D's truth within their churches and synagogues. They are self serving.

What was Peter and Johns answer to the court; we will not comply with what man wants and ignore what G-d has told us to do.

This should be the answer of each and every one of us that profess G-d and Yeshua as our defense against those that seek to steal, kill, and destroy His word of truth from our lives, and replace it with the lies of man.

Even if we are beaten and put into prison as Peter and John were for our obedience to G-d.

**Romans 12:1-2** **1**Therefore I urge you, brothers, on account of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God, which is your spiritual service of worship. **2**Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what is the good, pleasing, and perfect will of God.

How pleasing is it to G-d when one listens, obey and does what is expected within the will of G-d.

Accept the murder of children by abortion, NO, WE WILL NOT COMPLY!

Accept sexual perversions of all kinds, NO, WE WILL NOT COMPLY!

Accept all sins and lifestyles, stealing, lying, cheating, all evil, or we will put you in prison or kill you. What is our answer, take your best shot!!

When we professed G-d is the one and only G-d and His Son is our Lord and Savior, we accepted His authority to take His gospel His word of truth to all the world.

We as G-d's children have the responsibility to speak and teach the ways and truth of G-d and to pass on to other generations (our children and grandchildren) the same truth and to have the same comfort of a relationship with G-d.

As in the case with Peter and John we see the difference between just cheap talk and real action of G-d's truth.

How many hearts and lives do you know of that are broken, their living a life away from G-d. How many times has someone you know or even a stranger having a bad day asked for your advise for peace in their lives.

You ask what the problem is, they tell you, and you offer them the ways of our creator and His truth and they tell you where you can put your advice. Come on now. If we were together in a room I could probably get at least one Amen!

What stops them from accepting the truth? Their pride. I won't go to an entity that I cannot see or hear.

You say He exists and I say you use Him as a crutch to explain away why you don't have everything you want. Their story is always the same.

Yet you can bet your bottom dollar that individual will be back crying on your shoulder again with the same problems. It's a cycle with them. That's because their blind and deaf.

They won't submit themselves to His ways, His commandments, they want their own self centered desires and needs met on their terms and no one else. Such was the spiritual leadership in Jerusalem.

Although they knew G-d, (*in their own hearts*) but did not glorify Him as G-d, nor were thankful, but became futile in their own thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Romans 1:21.

John and Peter could have just accepted what they were told and stated that it was all a farce, a trick and even throw the lame man under the bus, so to speak, and say that they just wanted a little attention.

In closing, let me say this. Things are tough right now and some of us are going through some really hard struggles. We may ask or think why should I keep fighting those that are doing terrible things in my family, with my friends and even the political leadership (and I use that term sarcastically) of what they want me to accept as their truth.

But what price would one have to pay for such lies to avoid the trouble that man could cause them.

Your heart may be breaking today due to someone you know and love, someone that means more to you than life itself and yet they refuse to hear the word of G-d for salvation and eternal life, but continue to live in sin. You can either give up and give in to their demands or seek G-d's favor for their lives and ask that their hearts be for Him.

When it comes down to speaking the truth of G-d to others, we have the obligation, the duty to bring His truth to others and to teach others in His name of His ways and the salvation one will receive from our Lord and Savior Yeshua.

Talk is cheap, but action, in truth is supreme.

Let us commit our lives to and in the service of G-d as His people and finish the work He has given us.  
G-d Bless to each and every one of you, Amen and Amen.