

## Bible Study 3 The outbreak of persecution Acts 3:1-4:31

The disciples were told: “you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth” (Acts 1:8bNIV)

The book of Acts has three sections:

- The church in “Jerusalem” (Acts 1-7) - This study
- The church in “Judea and Samaria” (Acts 8:1 – 9:31)
- The church in “the ends of the earth” (Acts 9:32 – 28:31)

### ***PART 1 Background***

Jesus and the apostles taught before the New Testament was written. They largely addressed Jews who would often believe if a miracle was shown to them (“Jews demand signs”, 1 Corinthians 1:22).

***1. What was the purpose of Christ’s miracles?*** John 20:30-31

***2. What was the purpose of the miracles that accompanied the apostles’ message (“many wonders & signs performed by the apostles”, Acts 2:43)?*** Hebrews 2:3-4  
2 Corinthians 12:12

Read Acts 3:1 – 4:31, noting: lame beggar healed (3:1-10); Peter’s address (3:11-26); Peter & John before the Sanhedrin (4:1-22); the believers pray (4:23-31).

### ***PART 2 Things I discovered in this passage related to persecution***

***3. What I learnt about God the Father, Jesus Christ or the Holy Spirit.***

***4. Summarise the key verse(s) in your own words.***

***5. Which parts of the passage caught your attention?***

***6. Which parts of the passage were difficult to understand? What questions come to your mind?***

***7. How can we respond to resistance to the gospel message?***

***8. What personal applications can you make to your life? How has your life changed?***

