20_ *The Gospel Is Unstoppable!*
Acts 12

There are times when evil seems to be winning the day. It's easy at such times to wonder, "Where is God in all of this?" At the beginning of chapter 12 we have James dead, Peter in prison, and the tyrant, Herod, basking in his popularity and power. At the end of the chapter we have Peter free, Herod eaten by worms and dead, and the Word of God growing and multiplying. Luke is showing us The Gospel Is Unstoppable! If you oppose the gospel, you may temporarily win, but you will finally lose… and lose big. If you stand for the gospel, you may temporarily lose, but you will finally win… and win big.

God is almighty! No force can stop the spread of His gospel. I want to share four lessons I hope will help us when it seems the bad guys are winning… and the good guys are losing.

1. Although God is almighty, He does not _____ the untimely _____ of some of His choicest servants (12:1-4).

There are three practical lessons we should draw from this:

A. Those who teach it is always God's will to deliver us from sickness, tragedy, and death are _____ teachers.

B. God does not _____ us less when He allows tragedy into our lives.

C. As difficult as it is, we need to view death from God's _____ perspective, not from our _____ perspective.

2. Since God is almighty, He can easily _____ His servants from _____ impossible situations if it is His will (12:5-19).

Three applications:

A. God is most glorified when we are most _____ and totally _____ on Him.

B. God often waits until the eleventh hour to deliver us so we will be motivated to _____.

C. God is not _____ by the prayers of His people, but He works through our prayers to teach us to _____ totally on Him.

3. Since God is almighty, He can easily remove the most powerful and proud human leaders when it is His time to do so (12:20-23).

Note this lesson:

A. To seek _____ for ourselves is to declare war against God. That… is one war you cannot win!

4. Since God is almighty, His _____ cannot be stopped by any opposition (12:24-25).

> *"For the Word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit…"* Heb. 4:12

God still loves you. Jesus died on the cross for YOUR sins, too. He rose from the grave that held Him for only 3 days, and He's coming again to receive those who love Him for an eternity in glory!

So… what do we do with all this? The same thing the early church did with it. We preach it… We baptize in the Name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit for the forgiveness of sin… and the gift of the Holy Spirit... then we live it… and we share it to the ends of the earth. We become a part of the Church… the keepers of the Unstoppable Gospel.

What I Will Do With This Message: _____
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