

*Greetings, today our manna is from Genesis 4; Matthew 4; Ezra 4; Acts 4*

## January 4 - Melchizedek Devotional Perspective

[Note: I have added emphasis with underlines, highlights, and [brackets] to Scripture for [teaching purposes only](#).]

### Genesis 4

#### Cain and Abel

**Gen 4:1** And Adam knew H̄awwah his wife, and she conceived and bore Qayin, and said, “I have gained a man, יהוה.”

**Gen 4:2** And again, she gave birth to his brother Hebel. And Hebel became a keeper of sheep, but Qayin became a tiller of the ground.

**Gen 4:3** And it came to be, in the course of time, that Qayin brought an offering of the fruit of the ground to יהוה'.

**Gen 4:4** And Hebel also brought of the first-born of his flock and of their fat. And יהוה' looked to Hebel and his offering,

**Gen 4:5** but He did not look to Qayin and his offering. And Qayin was very wroth, and his face fell.

We know that without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sin. Due to the fall of Adam and Eve, sin entered the picture; they were disobedient and ate of the knowledge of the tree of good and evil being enticed by the naḥash or serpent.

Heb 9:22 And, according to the Torah, almost all is cleansed with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.

We can infer that at some point, YHWH instructed them about offerings. Offerings were made by the preachers of righteousness starting with Adam and the Melchizedek Priesthood prior to the implementation of the Aaronic Levitical Priesthood. Under the time period of the Aaronic Levitical Priesthood all offerings were channeled through and presented by the Aaronic Levitical Priesthood; rather than being a kingdom of priests whom could make offerings before YHWH per family unit or individually.

We also know, we all have sinned and have fallen short of the glory of YHWH. Approaching YHWH, the Holy Elohim, without an atoning blood sacrifice, was not acceptable. YHWH explains this to Cain.

Today, we as His kingdom of priests under the order of Melchizedek, still appear before YHWH with a repentant heart; and we know that the blood of Yahusha has been offered to remove our sins as far as the east is from the west, **once and for all**. There is no longer a need for animal sacrifices for the atonement for sins. Yahusha has now paid our sin debt in full for those that believe, repent, and receive Yahusha as their Savior.

**Gen 4:6** And יהוה said to Qayin, “Why is he wroth towards you? And why is your **face<sup>a</sup>** fallen? **Footnote: <sup>a</sup>Lit. faces.**

**Gen 4:7** “*Is it not if you do good, you are to be accepted? And if you do not do good, towards the door is a **sin.<sup>b</sup>** He is **lying<sup>c</sup>** and towards you is his desire, and you must rule **over<sup>d</sup>** him.” **Footnotes: <sup>b</sup>Or, sin-offering (feminine). <sup>c</sup>Or, reposing or crouching (masculine). <sup>d</sup>Lit. in.***

We are born with a fallen nature, our fleshly soul realm. Today, when we receive Yahusha, His Holy Spirit or the Ruach HaKodesh, dwells in us. We must let the power of His Ruach HaKodesh rule over the warring members of our flesh. The more we feed our Spirit man with the Word; the weaker and smaller our sinful fleshly ‘soul’ realm becomes. We are to have the mind of Yahusha; do the will of the Father, YHWH; and respond to situations as directed by His Word. By doing so, His Spirit within us grows brighter and brighter.

**Gen 4:8** And Qayin told Hebel his brother. And it came to be when they were in the field, that Qayin rose up against Hebel his brother and killed him.

**1Jn 3:12** not as Qayin who was of the wicked one and killed his brother. And why did he kill him? **Because his works were wicked but those of his brother were righteous.**

Cain chose not to rule over his fleshly realm. Instead, he was influenced by his own evil thoughts and influenced by the enemy. The enemy promotes the spirits of strife, envy, and jealousy. The enemy comes to steal, kill, and destroy. We do not battle against flesh and blood but against principalities, powers, rulers of darkness, and spiritual wickedness in heavenly places. [Eph. 6:12]

**Gen 4:9** And יהוה said to Qayin, “Where is Hebel your brother?” And he said, “I do not know. Am I my brother’s guard?”

**Gen 4:10** And He said, “What have you done? The voice of your brother’s blood cries out to Me from the ground.

Life is in the blood. This verse lets us know that blood has its own voice that speaks directly to YHWH from the ground. YHWH even knows when one sparrow falls to the ground.

**Mat 10:29** “Are not two sparrows sold for a copper coin? And not one of them falls to the ground without your Father.

**Gen 4:11** “And now you are cursed from the earth, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother’s blood from your hand.

**Gen 4:12** “If you till the ground, it shall no longer yield its strength to you. You shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth.”

**Gen 4:13** And Qayin said to יהוה, “My punishment is too great to bear!

**Gen 4:14** “See, You have driven me from the face of the ground today, and I am hidden from Your face. I shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth, and it shall be that anyone who finds me kills me.”

**Gen 4:15** And יהוה said to him, “Well, if anyone kills Qayin, vengeance is **taken on him sevenfold.**” And יהוה set up a sign for Qayin, lest anyone finding him strikes him.

Later we will see, under the time period of the Aaronic Levitical Priesthood and the Book of the Law, punishment for disobedience at times were increased seven-fold.

**Lev 26:18** ‘And after all this, if you do not obey Me, then I shall punish you seven times more for your sins.

**Lev 26:21** ‘And if you walk contrary to Me, and refuse to obey Me, I shall bring on you seven times more plagues, according to your sins,

**Gen 4:16** So Qayin went out from the presence of יהוה and dwelt in the land of Nođ on the east of Ĕden.

Under the time period of the Aaronic Levitical Priesthood and the Book of the Law, Cain would have been put to death. YHWH shows Cain grace by sparing his life; but there were still consequences for his sin.

**Lev 24:17** ‘And a man who strikes the being of any man shall certainly be put to death.

**Gen 4:17** And Qayin knew his wife, and she conceived and bore Ḥanoḵ. And he built a city, and called the name of the city after the name of his son, Ḥanoḵ.

**Gen 4:18** And to Ḥanoḵ was born Irad. And Irad brought forth Meḥuya’ěl, and Meḥuya’ěl brought forth Methusa’ěl, and Methusa’ěl brought forth Lemek.

**Gen 4:19** And Lemeḵ took for himself two wives, the name of one was Aḏah, and the name of the second was Tsillah.

**Gen 4:20** And Aḏah bore Yaḅal. He was the father of those who dwell in tents, with livestock.

**Gen 4:21** And his brother's name was Yuḅal. He was the father of all those who play the lyre and flute.

**Gen 4:22** As for Tsillah, she also bore Tuḅal-Qayin, a smith of all kinds of tools in bronze and iron. And the sister of Tuḅal-Qayin was Na'amah.

**Gen 4:23** And Lemeḵ said to his wives, "Aḏah and Tsillah, hear my voice! Wives of Lemeḵ, listen to my words! For I have killed a man for wounding me, even a young man for hurting me.

**Gen 4:24** "For Qayin is avenged sevenfold, and Lemeḵ seventy-sevenfold."

**Ellicott's Commentary on Gen. 4:23-24:** Lamech said . . . —Following quickly upon music, we have poetry, but it is in praise of ferocity, and gives utterance to the pride of one who, by means of the weapons forged by his son, had taken violent revenge for an attack made upon him. Many commentators, however, regard the poem as hypothetical. "Were any one to wound me, I would with these weapons slay him." It would thus be a song of exultation over the armour which Tubal-cain had invented. It more probably records a fact, and is intended to show that, side by side with progress in the material arts, moral degradation was going on. Cain's own act is spoken of, not as a sin to be ashamed of, but as a deed of ancient heroism: not comparable, however, with the glory of Lamech, whose wrath shall be ten-fold. The poetry is vigorous, and marked by that parallelism which subsequently became the distinguishing quality of Hebrew verse. It should be translated:—

"Adah and Zillah, hear my voice,

Ye wives of Lamech. give ear unto my rede.

For I have slain a man for wounding me:

Even a young man for bruising me.

Truly Cain shall be avenged sevenfold,

And Lamech seventy and sevenfold."

It is remarkable that both of the words used for the attack upon Lamech refer to such wounds as might be given by a blow with the fist, while his word means to pierce, or run through with a sharp weapon. "Young man" is literally child, but see on [Genesis 21:14](#).

With this boastful poem in praise of armed violence and bloodshed, joined with indications of luxury and a life of pleasure, the narrator closes the history of the race of Cain.

**Gen 4:25** And Adam knew his wife again, and she bore a son and called his name Shěth, "For Elohim has appointed me another seed instead of Hebel, because Qayin had killed him."

**Gen 4:26** And to Shěth, to him also a son was born. And he called his name Enosh.

Then it was begun to call on the Name of יהוה.<sup>e</sup> Footnote: <sup>e</sup>The first record of “calling on the Name of יהוה.”

Here it is recorded that instead of referring to YHWH as Elohim or Eloah; they now called upon His set-apart Name, YHWH. The footnote states that this is the first ‘calling’ on His Name.

## Matthew 4

### The Temptation of Yahusha

**Mat 4:1** Then יהושע was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tried by the devil.

YHWH often will allow us to go through trials to ‘prove us.’ To prove our steadfast love for Him as He did to the mixed multitude in the wilderness; or as He allowed in Job’s life. Days of proving also stand as a ‘powerful witness’ to others and to ourselves, as we come out of the refining fire and still prevail and still stand on holy ground!

Our strongest witnessing moments usually come from our wilderness experiences. We saw this demonstrated in:

1. The witness of the approximate ‘2.5 million’ mixed multitude of Israel **wandering in the wilderness**, while being observed from the high places by pagan nations. These nations feared this people of the one true Elohim that protected them and gave them victory!
2. Job’s **wilderness experience** of standing firm in YHWH, though He didn’t understand what brought on his life’s tragedies.
3. Elijah’s 40 day/night **wilderness journey** experience, and his dealings with feelings of isolation at the cave.
4. The witness of John the Immerser’s **wilderness experience**. Though the temple system was corrupted, it did not prevent him from carrying out his High Priestly duties of preaching repentance and baptizing in the Jordan, in preparing the way for Yahusha HaMashiach.
5. Yahusha’s 40 day/night **wilderness experience** face to face with Satan; as he stood His ground and gave witness to the power of His Word.
6. Yahusha’s **wilderness witness** of the crucifixion, death, burial, and resurrection to life; which had multiple eyewitnesses to the fact He lives!
7. Paul’s **wilderness witness** on the road to Damascus.
8. In the last days, the two witnesses will proclaim His Word to the **wilderness nations of unbelief** for 1,260 days.
9. The woman in Revelation 12, will be given two wings of a great eagle, to fly to her place in **the wilderness**, where she is nourished **for a time and times and half a time**.

**Mat 4:2** And after having fasted forty days and forty nights, He was hungry.

**Mat 4:3** And the trier came and said to Him, “If You are the Son of Elohim, command that these stones become bread.”

**Mat 4:4** But He answering, said, “It has been written, ‘**Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of יהוה.**’ ” [Deu 8:3](#).

**Mat 4:5** Then the devil took Him up into the set-apart city, set Him on the edge of the Set-apart Place,

**Mat 4:6** and said to Him, “If You are the Son of Elohim, throw Yourself down. For it has been written, ‘**He shall command His messengers concerning you,**’ [Psa 91:11](#) and, ‘**In their hands they shall bear you up, so that you do not dash your foot against a stone.**’ ” [Psa 91:12](#).

**Mat 4:7** יהושע said to him, “It has also been written, ‘**You shall not try יהוה your Elohim.**’ ” [Deu 6:16](#).

**Mat 4:8** Again, the devil took Him up on a very high mountain, and showed Him all the reigns of the world, and their esteem,

**Mat 4:9** and said to Him, “All these I shall give You if You fall down and worship me.”

**Mat 4:10** Then יהושע said to him, “Go, Satan! For it has been written, ‘**You shall worship יהוה your Elohim, and Him alone you shall serve.**’ ” [Deu 6:13](#).

**Mat 4:11** Then the devil left Him, and see, messengers came and attended Him.

It is often after our ‘[wilderness witness](#)’ experiences, that we are proven or shown to be faithful for the purposes that YHWH wants to fulfill in our lives. Yahusha demonstrated how to triumph over Satan. We are to speak His Word, for it is sharper than any two-edged sword. We defeat the enemy by the word of our testimony and the blood of the Lamb.

### **Yahusha Begins His Ministry**

**Mat 4:12** And יהושע, having heard that Yoḥanan had been put in prison, withdrew into Galil.

**Mat 4:13** And leaving Natsareth, He came and dwelt in Kephrah Naḥum, which is by the sea, in the borders of Zebulun and Naphtali,

**Mat 4:14** to fill what was spoken by Yeshayahu the prophet, saying,

**Mat 4:15** “**Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali, the way of the sea, beyond the Yardēn, Galil of the nations –**

**Mat 4:16** **the people who sat in darkness saw a great light, and upon those who sat in the land and shadow of death, light arose to them.**” [Isa 9:1-2](#).

**Mat 4:17** From that time יהושע began to proclaim and to say, “Repent, for the reign of the heavens has drawn near.”

Isn't this just amazing! We are seeing so many prophecies be fulfilled from Deuteronomy, Psalms, and Isaiah. He is faithful to fulfill every jot and tittle! This is YHWH's greatest witness to us all! Every prophecy, not just 'some' of the prophecies will be fulfilled!

### Yahusha Calls the First Disciples

**Mat 4:18** And יהושע, walking by the Sea of Galil, saw two brothers, Shim'on called Kēpha, and Andri his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen.

**Mat 4:19** And He said to them, "Follow Me, and I shall make you fishers of men."

**Mat 4:20** And immediately they left their nets and followed Him.

**Mat 4:21** And going on from there, He saw two other brothers, Ya'aqob *the son of Zabdai*, and Yoḥanan his brother, in the boat with Zabdai their father, mending their nets. And He called them,

**Mat 4:22** and immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed Him.

Now we see Yahusha start to call His disciples. Peter and Andrew, both fishermen, immediately left their nets and followed Him. Then we see two other brothers, James [Ya'aqob] and John [Yohanan], with their father Zebedee mending their nets in their boat. They too immediately left the boat and their father and followed Yahusha. One can't help but wonder what their father thought about that. They would all soon become 'fishers of men.'

The beauty is that they followed without hesitation. It was their day, when they heard His voice, and they followed!

Heb 3:7 Therefore, as the Set-apart Spirit says, "**Today, if you hear His voice,** 8 **do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion, in the day of trial in the wilderness,** 9 **where your fathers tried Me, proved Me, and saw My works forty years.**

### Yahusha Ministers to Great Crowds

**Mat 4:23** And יהושע went about all Galil, **teaching in their congregations**, and **proclaiming the Good News of the reign**, and **healing every disease and every bodily weakness** among the people.

**Mat 4:24** And news about Him went out into all Suria. And they brought to Him all who were sick, afflicted with various diseases and pains, and those who were demon-possessed, and epileptics, and paralytics. **And He healed them.**

**Mat 4:25** And large crowds – from Galil, and Dekapolis, and Yerushalayim, and Yehudāh, and beyond the Yardēn – followed Him.

Sometimes we may wonder why we don't see as many diseases healed as in the days of Yahusha? We need to keep in mind, when Yahusha walked on this earth, the people were in an unhealthy state spiritually, psychologically, and physically. Ten out of the twelve tribes had been dispersed among the nations and a partial group of the two southern tribes had returned to Jerusalem and rebuilt the temple. They lived under Roman rule and the Aaronic Levitical Priesthood was sorely corrupted. Yahusha was revealing Himself, that he had come into the world to seek and save that which was lost.

We read in Exodus:

Exo 15:26 And He said, "If you diligently obey the voice of יהוה your Elohim and do what is right in His eyes, and shall listen to His commands and shall guard all His laws, **I shall bring on you none of the diseases I brought on the Mitsrites, for I am יהוה who heals you.**"

Today, miraculous healings still prevail. Could it even be, that many of us have been spared from ever having some diseases brought on us, because we did start to be obedient to His voice and do what was right in His eyes? Because we did start listening to His Covenant commands and we started following His moedim and His dietary laws. Through belief in Yahusha we have received the power of the Ruach HaKodesh living in us and through us.

At the same time, we know we live in a fallen world that promotes addictive unhealthy living in many ways, and we are exposed to many things beyond our control. So, I am not saying, whenever we get ill or have a disease, that a person is not following His commands. What I am saying, is that true believers may one day be amazed at the many diseases we may have been spared because we did start to diligently obey His voice. Afterall, Hezekiah's life was extended so maybe some of our lives will be or have been extended as well; even if we are unaware.

In the authority of Yahusha HaMashiach, we ask, speak, and pray for healings and restorations for ourselves and our loved ones all the time and we should! He has given us the ability and the authority to be healed spiritually, psychologically, and physically of diseases, as well as being freed from demonic possessions and oppressions. He has given us His full armor to stand amid spiritual warfare. He gives us peace, love, and a sound mind.

We now live in a time where we can choose to walk in Covenant Torah and be saved by grace through faith. Several of us may have been brought up in homes of believers, while many others have not. In our day and age, even many 1<sup>st</sup> generation believers, have ready access to the Word of YHWH by hardcopies, internet, or other various electronic forms within this age of technology.

## Ezra 4

Spiritual warfare spills over into the physical realm.

### Adversaries Oppose the Rebuilding

**Ezr 4:1** And when the adversaries of Yehudāh and Binyamin heard that the sons of the exile were building the Hēḱal of יהוה' Elohīm of Yisra'ēl,

**Ezr 4:2** they came to Zerubbabel and the heads of the fathers' houses and said to them, "Let us build with you, for we seek your Elohīm as you do. And we have slaughtered to Him since the days of Ēsarhaddon sovereign of Ashshur, who brought us here."

#### Ellicott's Commentary Notes:

**Ezra 4:2 As ye do.**—"They feared the Lord, and worshipped their own gods" ([2Kings 17:33](#)): thus they came either in the spirit of hypocrites or with an intention to unite their own idolatries with the pure worship of Jehovah. In any case, they are counted enemies of the God of Israel.

**We do sacrifice unto Him since the days of Esar-haddon.**—He ended his reign B.C. 668, and therefore the Samaritans speak from a tradition extending backwards a century and a half.

**Which brought us up hither.**—Thus they entirely leave out of consideration what residue of Israel was yet to be found among them.

Zerubbabel and Joshua [Jeshua or Yeshua] do not engage with the enemy's proposition.

**Ezr 4:3** But Zerubbabel and Yēshua and the rest of the heads of the fathers' houses of Yisra'ēl said to them, "It is not for you and for us to build a house for our Elohīm, **but we alone build to יהוה' Elohīm of Yisra'ēl, as Sovereign Koresh the sovereign of Persia has commanded us.**"

**Ezr 4:4** And it came to be that the people of the land were weakening the hands of the people of Yehudāh and troubling them in their building,

**Ezr 4:5** and hiring counsellors against them to thwart their plans all the days of Koresh sovereign of Persia, even until the reign of Dareyawesh sovereign of Persia.

**Ezr 4:6** And in the reign of Ahashwērosh, in the beginning of his reign, they wrote an accusation against the inhabitants of Yehudāh and Yerushalayim.

The enemy may interfere and slow down the divine plans of YHWH and weary His people; but they will never ultimately thwart the plans of YHWH. We are to be tuned into His voice and His voice only.

### The Letter to King Artaxerxes [Artahshashta]

**Ezr 4:7** And in the days of Artahshashta, Bishlam, Mithredath, Tabe'el, and the rest of their companions wrote to Artahshashta sovereign of Persia. And the letter was written in Aramaic, and translated *from* Aramaic.

**Ezr 4:8** Rehum the governor and Shimshai the scribe wrote a letter against Yerushalayim to Sovereign Artahshashta, thus:

**Ezr 4:9** Rehum the governor, and Shimshai the scribe, and the rest of their companions – the judges, and the emissaries, the consuls, the officials, the people of Ereḵ and of Babel and of Shushan, the Dehawites, the Ēylamites,

**Ezr 4:10** and the rest of the nations whom the great and noble Osnapper took into exile and settled in the cities of Shomeron and the rest beyond the River. And now,

**Ezr 4:11** this is a copy of the letter that they sent him, to Sovereign Artahshashta from your servants the men beyond the River. And now,

**Ezr 4:12** let it be known to the sovereign that the Yehudim who came up from you have come to us at Yerushalayim, and are building the rebellious and evil city, and are completing its walls and repairing the foundations.

**Ezr 4:13** Now let it now be known to the sovereign that, if this city is built and the walls completed, they are not going to pay tax, excise, or toll, and cause the revenue of the sovereign to suffer loss.

**Ezr 4:14** Now, because we have eaten salt from the palace, it was not fitting for us to see the sovereign's shame. Therefore we have sent and informed the sovereign,

**Ezr 4:15** so that search be made in the book of the records of your fathers, and you find in the book of the records, and know, that this city is a rebellious city, and causing loss to sovereigns and provinces. And revolt was stirred up in it since days of old, for which cause this city was destroyed.

**Ezr 4:16** We inform the sovereign that if this city is rebuilt and its walls are completed, then you have no portion beyond the River.

Satan is the 'accuser of the brethren' and in Ezra 4, he uses a 'coven' of wicked companions to come against Judah. Through their potion of written lies mixed with some truth, they try to stir up anyone and everyone that will join their stance against Judah and block them from rebuilding the House of Elohim and the wall. Bearing false witness and making false accusations are abundantly used by Jezebels. Faithful believers of YHWH are targeted by Satan. Satan doesn't throw stones at dead birds; he throws stones at those making a difference for the Kingdom of YHWH.

### The King Orders the Work to Cease

**Ezr 4:17** The sovereign sent a message: To Rehum the governor, and Shimshai the

**scribe, to the rest of their companions who dwell in Shomeron, and the rest beyond the River:** Peace! And now,

Ezr 4:18 the letter you sent to us has been plainly read before me.

Ezr 4:19 And I made the decree, and a search has been made, and it was found that this city in days of old has lifted up itself against sovereigns, and that rebellion and revolt have been made in it.

Ezr 4:20 And mighty sovereigns have been over Yerushalayim, who have ruled over all beyond the River. And tax, excise, and toll were paid to them.

Ezr 4:21 **Now, make a decree to make these men cease, and that this city be not built until the command is given by me.**

Ezr 4:22 And beware of negligence to do this. Why should damage increase to the hurt of the sovereigns?

Ezr 4:23 Now when the copy of the letter of Sovereign Artahshashta was read before Rehum, and Shimshai the scribe, and their companions, **they went up in a hurry to Yerushalayim against the Yehudim, and made them cease by might and power.**

Ezr 4:24 **Then the work of the House of Elah which is at Yerushalayim ceased, and it ceased until the second year of the reign of Dareyawesh sovereign of Persia.**

The enemy convinces King Artahshashta [Artaxerxes] to stop Judah's progress; but we will see that it is only delayed for a time.

## Acts 4

### Peter and John Before the Council

Act 4:1 And as they were speaking **to the people, the priests** and **the captain** of the Set-apart Place, and **the Sadducees**, came upon them,

Act 4:2 **being annoyed because they taught the people and announced the resurrection from the dead in יהושע.**

Act 4:3 And **they arrested them**, and **put them in jail until the next day**, for it was already evening.

Act 4:4 **But many of those who had heard the word believed**, and the number of the men became about **five thousand**.

Act 4:5 And it came to be, on the next day, that their rulers and elders and scribes assembled in Yerushalayim,

Act 4:6 **as well as Hanan the high priest, and Qayapha, and Yohanan, and Alexander, and as many as were of high priestly descent.**

We should understand by now, that the one most qualified to serve as High Priest was John the Immerser. Though other candidates may have been eligible; they were not the best qualified. Only the best qualified were to serve as High Priest. Others were favored or selected because the Romans deemed them more acceptable to ‘work with.’

Yahusha testifies to John the Immerser being the most qualified:

Mat 11:11 “Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has not risen one greater than Yohanan the Immerser, yet the least one in the reign of the heavens is greater than he.

Act 4:7 And having placed them in the middle, they asked, **“By what power or in what Name did you do this?”**

Act 4:8 Then **Kěpha, filled with the Set-apart Spirit, said to them**, “Rulers of the people and elders of Yisra’ěl:

Act 4:9 “If today we are called to account for a good deed towards a sick man, by whom he has been healed,

Act 4:10 let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Yisra’ěl, that in the Name of יהושע Messiah of Natsareth, whom you impaled, whom Elohim raised from the dead, by Him this one stands before you, healthy.

Act 4:11 “This is **‘the stone which was rejected by you builders, which has become the chief corner-stone.’** [Psa 118:22](#).

Act 4:12 “And there is no deliverance in anyone else, for there is **no other Name under the heaven given among men by which we need to be saved.**”

Act 4:13 And seeing the boldness of Kěpha and Yoḥanan, and perceiving that they were unlearned and ordinary men, they marveled. And they recognized that they had been with יהושע.

Act 4:14 And seeing the man who had been healed standing with them, they could not contradict it.

The rulers, elders, and the scribes, the very ones that had come against Yahusha and plotted against him, are now coming against His taught ones. All their plans and schemes to squelch the Covenant message through crucifying Yahusha, has played right into expanding the Covenant Confirming Gospel message exponentially.

You see, the rulers, elders, scribes and Pharisees, had once only focused on trying to silence Yahusha; but now His kingdom of priests after the order of Melchizedek is growing faster than they would ever be able to silence. The infilling of the Ruach HaKodesh is powerful and working through each believing individual! The consuming fire of Elohim has been loosed and the dynamic power of the Ruach HaKodesh is burning brightly in the lives of the believers. No matter how much the rulers, scribes, and elders want to silence the Truth; it is now utterly impossible; but that doesn't mean they will cease from trying.

**Act 4:15** But when they had commanded them to go aside out of the council, they consulted with one another,

**Act 4:16** saying, "What shall we do to these men? For, indeed, that an outstanding miracle has been done through them is apparent to all those dwelling in Yerushalayim, and we are unable to deny it.

**Act 4:17** "But in order that it spreads no further among the people, let us strongly threaten them, to speak no more to anyone in this Name."

**Act 4:18** And they called them and commanded them not to speak at all nor to teach in the Name of יהושע.

**Act 4:19** But Kēpha and Yoḥanan answering them, said, "Whether it is right in the sight of Elohim to listen to you more than to Elohim,<sup>a</sup> you judge. Footnote: <sup>a</sup>See [Act 5:29](#).

**Act 4:20** "For it is impossible for us not to speak of what we saw and heard."

**Act 4:21** And having threatened them further, they released them, finding no way of punishing them, because of the people, because they were all praising Elohim for what had been done.

**Act 4:22** For the man was over forty years old on whom this miracle of healing had been done.

Peter had been given all the right words to speak by YHWH through the Ruach HaKodesh.

### The Believers Pray for Boldness

**Act 4:23** And **having been released**, they went **to their own people** and reported all that the chief priests and elders said to them.

**Act 4:24** And having heard that, they lifted **up their voice to Elohim with one mind** and said, "יהוה, You are Elohim, who **made the heaven and the earth and the sea, and all that is in them,**<sup>b</sup> [Psa 146:6](#) Footnote: <sup>b</sup>Also see [Exo 20:11](#).

**Act 4:25** who by the mouth of Your servant Dawid have said, 'Why did the nations rage, and the people plot in vain?

**Act 4:26** 'The sovereigns of the earth stood up, and the rulers were gathered together against יהוה and against His Messiah.' [Psa 2:1-2](#).

Act 4:27 “For truly, in this city there were gathered together against Your set-apart Servant יהושע, whom You anointed, both Herodes and Pontius Pilate, with the nations and the people of Yisra’el

Act 4:28 to do whatever Your hand and Your purpose decided before to be done.

Act 4:29 “**And now, יהוה, look on their threats, and give to Your servants all boldness to speak Your word.**

Act 4:30 **by stretching out Your hand for healing, and signs, and wonders to take place through the Name of Your set-apart Servant יהושע.”**

Act 4:31 And when they had prayed, the place where **they came together was shaken**. And **they were all filled with the Set-apart Spirit**, and **they spoke the word of Elohim with boldness**.

Much like the initial outpouring of the Ruach HaKodesh, they once again gathered together in one mind to Elohim and prayed for boldness to speak His word and for Him to stretch out His hand for healing, signs, and wonders to take place through the Name of Yahusha.

Their prayers are answered, and they receive a fresh infilling of the Set-apart Spirit, the Ruach HaKodesh.

### They Had Everything in Common

Act 4:32 And **the group of those who believed were of one heart and one being**. And no one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they had all in common.

Act 4:33 And **with great power the emissaries gave witness to the resurrection of the Master יהושע, and great favour was upon them all.**

Act 4:34 For there was not anyone needy among them, for all who were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the prices of what was sold,

Act 4:35 and laid them at the feet of the emissaries, and they distributed to each as anyone had need.

Act 4:36 **And Yosēph, who was also called Barnaba by the emissaries (which means Son of Encouragement), a Lēwite, a native of Cyprus,**

Act 4:37 having land, sold it, and brought the money and laid it at the feet of the emissaries.

~ Shalom ~ Libby

Devotional Reading Plan Link: <http://www.mcheyne.info/calendar.pdf>