

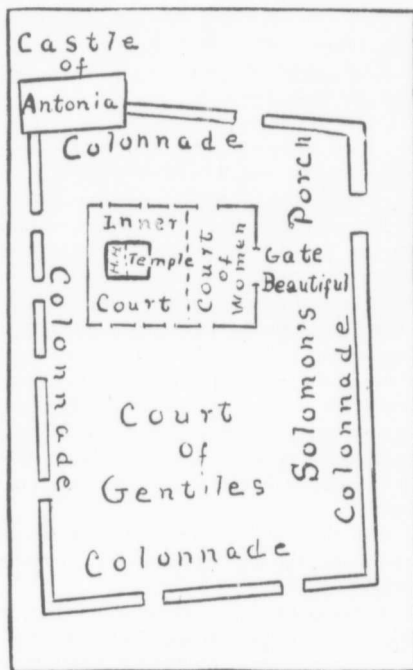
v. 28. What made these learned and wise men so foolish? "Their jealousy and bigotry", will be the quick response. Show how inevitably these passions blind people.

On the other hand, can anything be finer than the apostles' reply? Have the scholars analyze this: (a) Obedience to God rather

than man; (b) The rulers' God-defying and murderous folly flung in their faces; (c) The present glory of the crucified Jesus; (d) His mission of salvation; (e) The unanswerable witness to it all.

If there is time, follow the story up in vs. 40-42.

THE GEOGRAPHY LESSON



The Tower of Antonia stood at the north-western angle of the temple enclosure, on the site of a stronghold as old as the days of Nehemiah. It was repaired and fortified more strongly than before by Herod the Great, who named it in honor of Mark Antony, the famous Roman general. The rock on which the tower stood was 87 feet in height, the highest point in the neighborhood. A subterranean passage connected it with the temple. A Roman legion was stationed in the tower, whose duty was to keep order in the temple enclosure, especially during the great Jewish festivals, when great crowds from all parts of the world were assembled. Titus, the leader of the Roman army which captured Jerusalem in A.D. 70, ordered the tower to be demolished. Says a recent traveler, "The view across the temple area, in the great white courtyard of the Mosque of Omar, with the Tower of Antonia off there to the right... makes one fairly see the courts of old, thronging with worshipers, clouds of smoke and fire ascending from sacrifices of burnt offering, while rising above all one can picture the glories of the temple itself."

ADDED HINTS AND HELPS

In this section will be found further assistance under various headings.

Some Test Questions

1. Describe the growth of the kingdom of Christ. Mention one way in which the new believers showed their faith.
2. What effect had the success of the apostles upon the Jewish authorities?
3. Who was the actual high priest of the time? What deposed high priest still had great influence?
4. Which Jewish sect was specially bitter against the apostles, and why?
5. By whom were the apostles arrested?

Where were they temporarily detained?

6. In what way were they set free? What were they then commanded to do?

7. Why did the officers bring them without violence to the Sanhedrin?

8. What charge did the high priest bring against them? Through whom did the apostles answer? What was their answer?

9. What crime did Peter bring home to the rulers? For what purpose did he do this?

10. On whose advice were the apostles set free? What punishment was inflicted upon them?

11. What were they forbidden to do? How did they treat this prohibition?