

## Lesson V.

## THE TRIAL OF PETER AND JOHN

January 31, 1909

**BETWEEN THE LESSONS**—Peter and John, while they were speaking to the people in Solomon's Porch, were arrested by the Jewish authorities, and put in prison. But many of those who had heard them, believed, and the number of the disciples was increased to five thousand. (See vs. 1-4.)

**GOLDEN TEXT**—And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.—Acts 4: 31.

Memorize vs. 11, 12. **THE LESSON PASSAGE**—Acts 4: 5-20. Study Acts 4: 1-31.

5 And it came to pass on the morrow, that their rulers, and elders, and scribes,<sup>1</sup>

6 And An'as the high priest, <sup>2</sup>and Caiaphas, and John, and Alexander, and as many as were of the kindred of the high priest, <sup>3</sup>were gathered together at Jerusalem.

7 And when they had set them in the midst, they asked, By what power, or by what name, have ye done this?

8 Then Peter, filled with the Holy Ghost, said unto them, Ye rulers of the people, and elders of Israel,

9 If we this day be examined of the good deed done to the impotent man, by what means he is made whole;

10 Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole.

11 This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner.

12 Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given

Revised Version—were gathered together in Jerusalem; <sup>2</sup> was there; <sup>3</sup> Omit last five words; <sup>4</sup> inquired; <sup>5</sup> in; <sup>6</sup> Omit of Israel; <sup>7</sup> are examined concerning a; <sup>8</sup> an; <sup>9</sup> this man; <sup>10</sup> He is; <sup>11</sup> the; <sup>12</sup> was made; <sup>13</sup> And in none other is there salvation: for neither is there any other name; that is given; <sup>14</sup> wherein; <sup>15</sup> beheld; <sup>16</sup> had; <sup>17</sup> seeing; <sup>18</sup> wrought through them; <sup>19</sup> Omit them; <sup>20</sup> Omit straitly; <sup>21</sup> charged; <sup>22</sup> rather than; <sup>23</sup> saw and heard.

Daily Readings—(Courtesy, I.B.R.A.)—M.—The trial of Peter and John, Acts 4: 1-12. T.—The trial of Peter and John, Acts 4: 13-31. W.—Persecution foretold, Luke 21: 5-15. Th.—God's heroes, Dan. 3: 8-18. F.—The only foundation, 1 Cor. 3: 1-11. S.—The rejected stone, Matt. 21: 33-44. S.—Not ashamed, 2 Tim. 1: 1-12.

## THE LESSON EXPLAINED



A DOCTOR OF THE LAW

I. PETER'S TESTIMONY.—5-7. On the morrow. It was evening when the two apostles were arrested and imprisoned, v. 3. Rulers, and elders, and scribes; the three classes making up the Sanhedrin, or national Council of the Jews. "Rul-

were. Were gathered together.. set them (Peter and John) in the midst. See Geography Lesson. By what power, or by what name.. done this? The miracle could not be questioned; but they sought to bring home to the apostles a charge of using magic, which the law of Moses forbade (see Deut. 18: 1-5).

8-12. Peter, filled with the Holy Ghost. This freed him from the fear of man, and endowed him with wisdom to answer his accusers (see Mark 13: 11; Luke 21: 14, 15). Ye rulers of the people. The Sanhedrin was the highest court of the Jews. Examined concerning a good deed (Rev. Ver.); a hard hit for the judges who would make a crime of such a deed of kindness. This man is made whole (Rev. Ver.). The man was present to be seen of all. In v. 10, Peter declares again that the man had been healed by the name of Jesus Christ, whom the Jews had crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This (that is, Jesus) is the stone; referred to in Ps. 118: 22 (compare Matt. 21: 42). Set at nought; despised as worthless. Of you the builders (Rev. Ver.). The Council are fitly so called, as responsible for the religious and civil government of the nation. Head of the corner; the corner stone: on it the walls rest. The church is founded on Christ, Eph. 2: 20-22. Neither.. salvation in any other. The real question before the Council is not, who healed the lame man's ankle-

ors" were the priests; "elders", the representatives of the people; "scribes", the interpreters and teachers of the law of Moses. Annas the high priest; actually ex-high priest, Caiaphas, his son-in-law, being high priest at the time (see John 18: 13). But the title was continued to Annas, though he had been removed from the office by the Roman governor. Annas is mentioned first, because of his great influence; he may have continued to preside over the Sanhedrin. John and Alexander. It is not known who these