

chapters

1 Stand by Me

2a You Light Up My

2b He's ALIVE

3 When Tomorrow Starts

4a Got Friends in Low Places

4b Accountable

5 Worthy

6 Serving

7-8 Baptizing

9a Calling

9b Healing

10-11 Including

12 Praying

Acts of the Apostles

June 30, 2024

Peter & John before Sanhedrin
Ruling Council of Jerusalem



Acts 4:12 - Salvation is found in no other, for there is NO OTHER name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.

Happy Fourth of July

**Happy
Fourth of
July**



An American flag is draped over a wooden surface, with the blue field of stars on the left and the red and white stripes on the right. The flag is slightly wrinkled and appears to be resting on a dark wooden plank background.

American Flag Retirement Ceremony

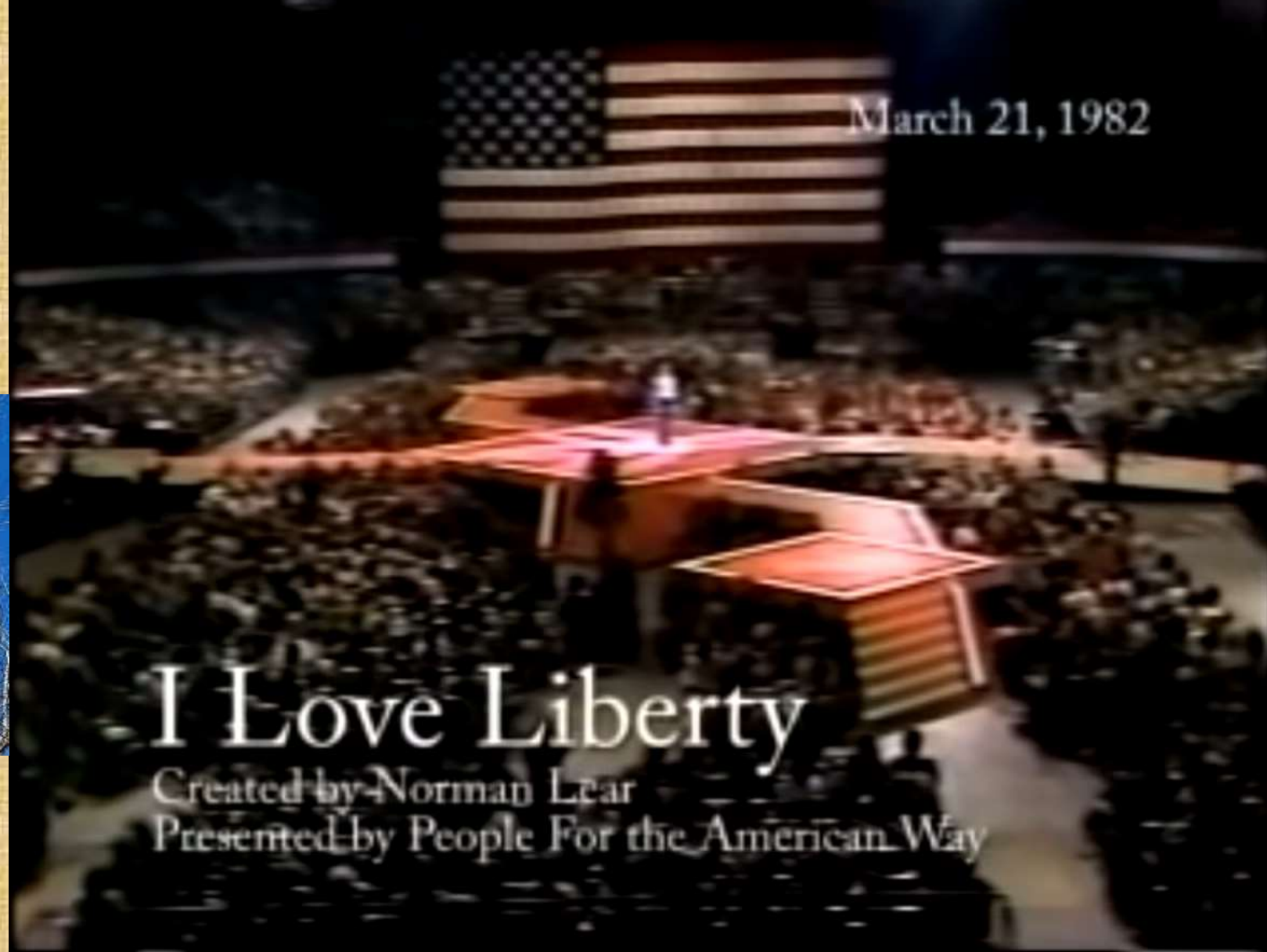
Led by VFW and American Legion

Saturday ~ July 6 ~ 11:00 a.m.

Wild Bill's Grill ~ Woodville

233 U.S. Hwy 190 - mile east of town

1982 ... “**Flag**” speaks
by Robin Williams ...
If you’ve not seen this
I think every American
should ...
Especially today ...



March 21, 1982

I Love Liberty

Created by Norman Lear

Presented by People For the American Way

Happy Fourth of July

Acts 4:12 - Salvation is found in no one else ...

Acts 4 – Boldness of Peter & John

NOT so much out of **DEBT** to Christ ...

NOT so much out of **OBLIGATION** to the Gospel ...

NOT so much out of **DUTY** to the Great Commission

ALL these – **DEBT**, **OBLIGATION**, **DUTY** – play role in life...

As I hope to expose ... perhaps what you already know

Peter & John's boldness was

IMPELLED by LOVE for God in Christ

Peter & John before Sanhedrin
Ruling Council of Jerusalem

Peter & John
in a big fix



Well, I guess I was wrong,
I just don't belong
Then ... I've been there before
Everything's all right,
I'll just say good night
And I'll show myself to the door
Hey, I didn't mean to cause a big scene



SPIRITVS SCIENTIÆ.
Vani sunt quibus est ignota scientia, summum Sapient. xiiii. Qua noscant, et ament, rite colantq; Deum.

Woodville
First Baptist
Our Church



Early Church

	<i>Chapter</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Summary</i>
June 2	1	Stand by Me	Gift of Holy Ghost Coming
June 9	2a	You Light Up My Life	Pentecost—Gift of Holy Spirit
June 16	2b	He's ALIVE	1st Sermon Resurrection - Unified, Devoted, Shared .
June 23	3	When Tomorrow Starts	Peter Heals Lame – 2nd Sermon Resurrection
June 30	4a	Got Friends in Low Places	Peter to Rulers of Jerusalem
July 7	4b	Accountable	Ananias & Sapphira
July 14	5	Worthy	Peter Arrested, Gamaliel
July 21	6	Serving	Seven Chosen & Stephen
July 28	7-8	Baptizing	Angel, Phillip, Candace
Aug 4	9a	Calling	Paul Blinded, then SEES
Aug 11	9b	Healing	Peter Heals Aenaes & Raises Tabatha
Aug 18	10	Including	Peter's Vision—EAT
Aug 25	11-12	Praying	Peter Freed from Prison



Peter & John are

BOLD



Chapter 4

1-22 Peter & John Before Sanhedrin: Peter and John replied,
“Which is right in God’s eyes: to listen to you, or to him?
You be the judges! As for us,
we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard.

22-37 Peter, John, People PRAY – All in One Heart:

After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken.
... all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.



**4:11 Jesus is the stone you builders rejected,
which has become the cornerstone.**

Cornerstone of the Church

Let it Be Known



Jesus-Chief Cornerstone

Key Doctrine - Salvation

**There is no salvation apart from
personal faith in Jesus Christ as Lord.**

Acts 4:12 – key verse

**Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other
name under heaven given to mankind by which we
must be saved.**



Doctrine of the Salvation

The Baptist Faith and Message (1963): www.PreciousHeart.net/Baptist_Faith.htm

Article IV. Salvation.

Salvation involves the redemption of the whole man, and is offered freely to all who accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour, who by His own blood obtained eternal redemption for the believer. In its broadest sense salvation includes regeneration, sanctification, and glorification.

A. Regeneration ~ B. Sanctification ~ C. Glorification



Gen 3:15; Ex 3:14-17; 6:2-8; Mat 1:21; 4:17; 16:21-26; 27:22-28:6; Luke 1:68-69; 2:28-32; John 1:11-14, 29; 3:3-21, 36; 5:24; 10:9, 28-29; John 15:1-16; 17:17; Acts 2:21; 4:12; 15:11; 16:30-31; 17:30-31; 20:32; Rom 1:16-18; 2:4; 3:23-25; 4:3; Rom 5:8-10; 6:1-23; 8:1-18; 29-39; 10:9-10, 13; Rom 13:11-14; 1Cor 1:18, 30; 6:19-20; 15:10; 2Co 5:17-20; Gal 2:20; 3:13; 5:22-25; 6:15; Eph 1:7; 2:8-22; 4:11-16; Php 2:12-13; Col 1:9-22; 3:1; 1Th 5:23-24; 2Tim 1:12; Titus 2:11-14; Heb 2:1-3; 5:8-9; 9:24-28; 11:1-12:8, 14; James 2:14-26; 1Pe 1:2-23; 1Jo 1:6-2:11; Rev 3:20; 21:1-22:5

Acts 4:1-7 – The Challenge

disturbed

- ✓ Priests, captain, Sadducees came to Peter and John, **disturbed** that the apostles were teaching resurrection of the dead.
- ✓ Evening, they seized Peter and John ... and put them in jail until the next day. But many believed and number grew by 5,000.
- ✓ Next day, the rulers, elders, teachers, Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, Alexander & the high priest's family met to Jerusalem.
- ✓ Peter and John were brought and LEADERS began to question them:

**“By what power or
what name did you do this?”**



Boldness

Greater the Risk

FEWER* there be that are **BOLD*

that's just a
FACT

Play Bold



Bold for God

Bold for a Cause

the Greater the Risk

FEWER there be that are BOLD



Acts 4:1-7 – The Challenge

- ✓ Priests, captain, Sadducees came to Peter and John, disturbed that the apostles were teaching resurrection of the dead.
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“By what power or what name did you do this?”



What's the back story?

Before Peter & John's Arrest – Acts 3:1-26

Mr. Lame Man

- ✓ Man BORN LAME from birth was being carried to the temple gate called Beautiful . . .

KJV – lame from mother's womb



Peter & John Healing a Lame Man
at the Beautiful Gate, c. 1650
by unknown of Bolognese School



Before Peter & John's Arrest – Acts 3:1-26

Mr. Lame Man

Peter & John Healing a Lame Man
at the Beautiful Gate, c. 1650
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Before Peter & John's Arrest – Acts 3:1-26

Mr. Lame Man

- ✓ man BORN LAME from birth was being carried to the temple gate called Beautiful . . . *KJV – lame from mother's womb*
- ✓ 4:22 “man miraculously healed was over **40 YEARS OLD**”
- ✓ where he was PUT every day to beg from those going into the temple courts . . .
- ✓ Peter looked straight at him, as did John.

Then Peter said,
“Look at us!”



Before Peter & John's Arrest – Acts 3:1-26

Beautiful Gate – Mr. Lame Man

Peter said, “Look at us!” . . . the man LOOKED

Peter said,

**Silver or gold have I none,
but what I do have I give you.**

in the name of

Jesus Christ of Nazareth,

WALK!



Pre-Reformation Vignette

Pope Innocent VIII
Pope 1484-92



On money, Pope said, “We can no longer say, ‘Silver & Gold have we none.’”

Martin Luther
1483 -1546



**1517 Nailed
95 Theses to Door**

**507 years ago
Oct. 31, 2024**

To which Martin Luther replied,
“Nor can the Church any longer say,
‘Rise up & walk.’”



- ✓ Luther's 1517 theses are engraved into the door of All Saints' Church, Wittenberg
- ✓ Latin inscription above informs the reader that the original door was destroyed by a fire, and that in 1857,



Before Peter & John's Arrest – Acts 3:1-26

Beautiful Gate – Mr. Lame Man

Who was that man?

Just “Lame Man” . . . “Old Hop-along?”

“Alligator Legs?” – see *new Geico Insurance commercial?*

Have you known him? . . . I think so . . .

Maybe his name was *Bill!* . . . Likely has shrivelled feet 40 years

EVERYONE knew Bill . . . and knew his shrivelled feet

sometimes called ... Wild Bill

more often ... Crocodile Bill

Then again, **NO**, cause
he could not even **HOP!**



Before Peter & John's Arrest – Acts 3:1-26

Everybody Knew **Crocodile Bill**

Nile Crocodile is second largest ... travelers knew

Shops in Jerusalem sold Croc Bags ... *ahh perhaps*

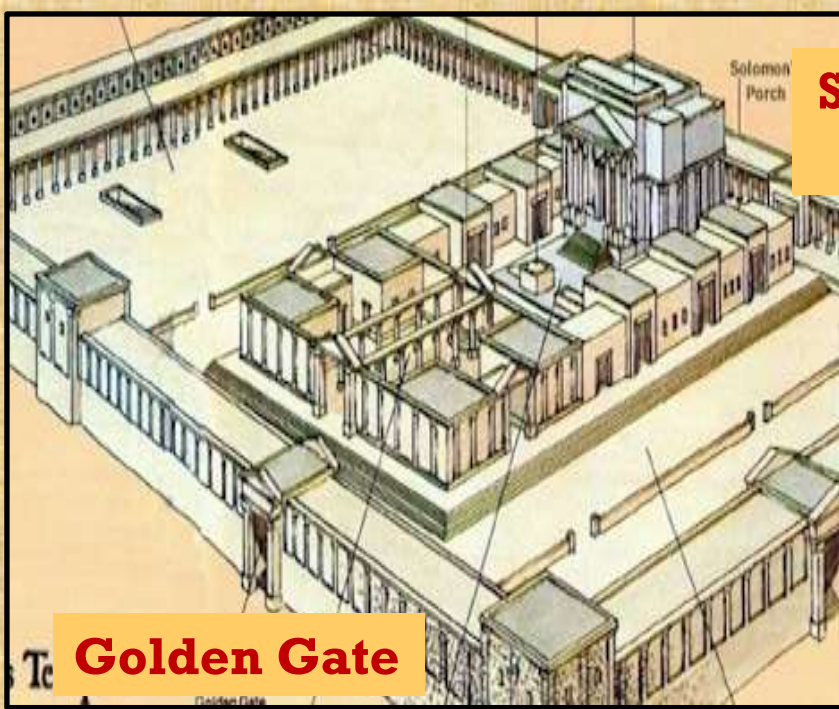
Verses 3:10-11

- ✓ They **recognized** Bill as the same man **BEGGING**
- ✓ All were filled with wonder and **AMAZEMENT**
- ✓ All were astonished and came **RUNNING** to

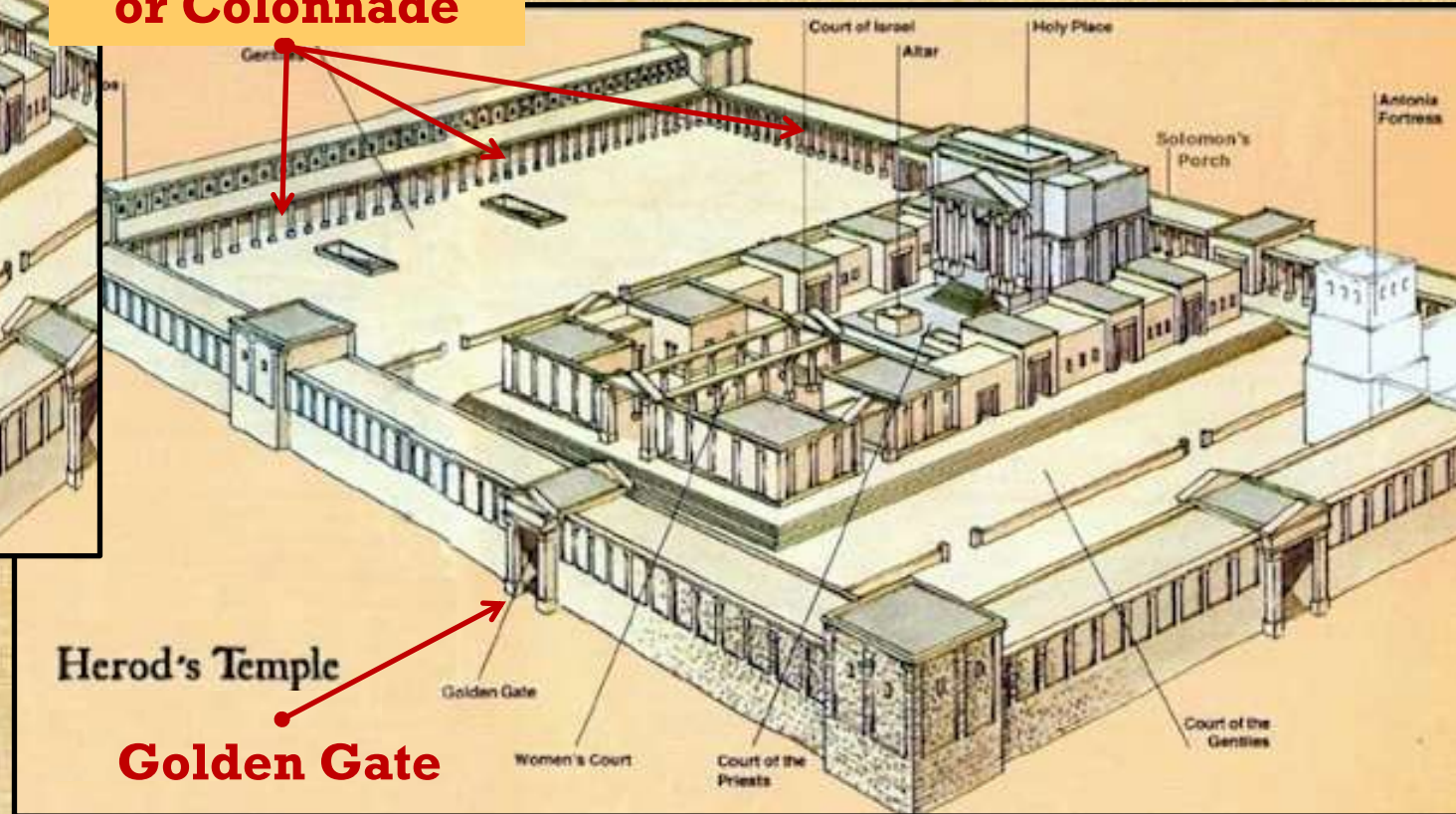


Solomon's Colonnade

Beautiful Gate



**Solomon's Porch
or Colonnade**



Herod's Temple

Golden Gate

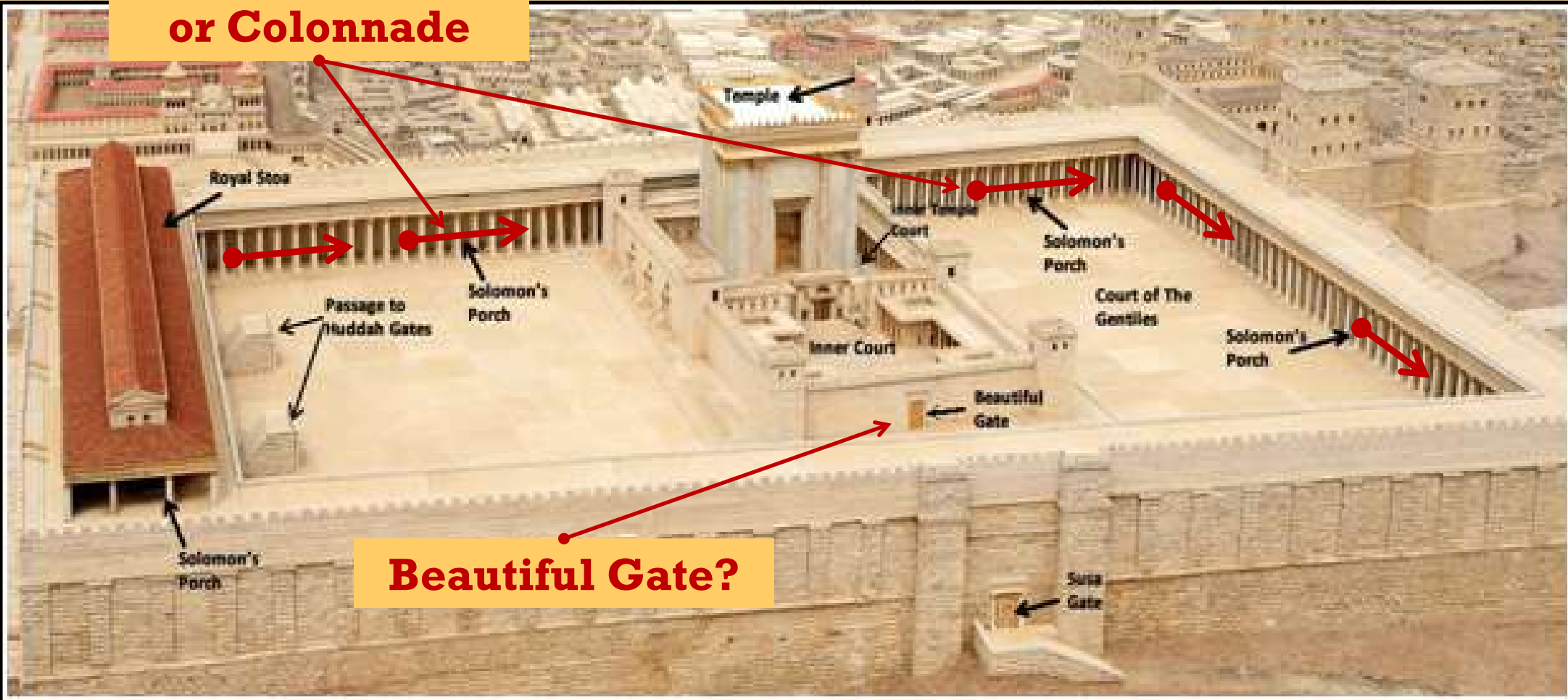


East Gate ~ Golden Gate ~ Beautiful Gate

Arabic—Gate of Eternal Life

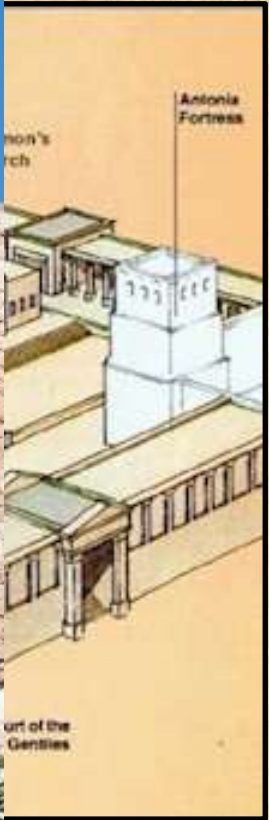
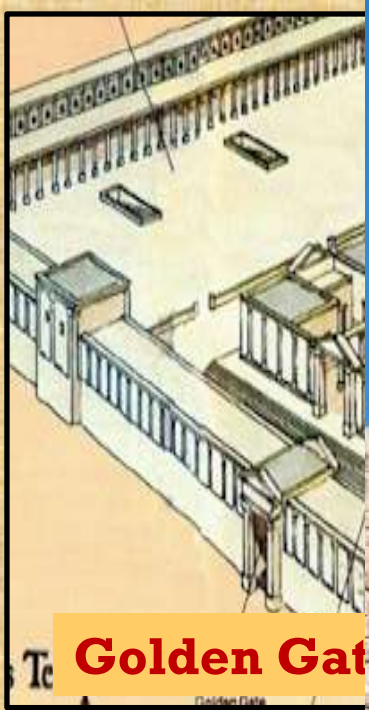
Temple Complex

**Solomon's Porch
or Colonnade**



Beautiful Gate?

Beautiful Gate



Before Peter & John's Arrest – Acts 3:1-26

Peter's Second Witness – *Verses 3:12-26*

with Crocodile Bill in the background ... somewhere

Fellow Israelites ... Why does this surprise you?

God of Abraham ... glorified Jesus

Who YOU disowned ...

YOU killed the author of life

Repent ... turn to God

**What's Crocodile Bill doing?
He's listening ... closely!
His life has changed ...
He can get a job now ...**



Boldness

Chapter 4

1-7 The Challenge – confronted, arrested – what power?

8-12 The Answer – Spirit, Let it be known, Jesus Cornerstone
no other name under heaven

13 The Recognition – BOLDNESS of Peter & John AMAZE

14-22 Warning Empowers – Peter & John RESOLUTE

“Boldness” of Peter in the Light



Acts 4:1-7 – The Challenge

Next day, the rulers, elders, teachers, Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, Alexander and others of the high priest's family met in Jerusalem.

EVERY IMPORTANT PERSON

Peter and John were brought and they began to question them:

“By what power or what name did you do this?”

ALL the IMPORTANT People

Sanhedrin – High Court, High Priest

A.D. 30-50 Gamaliel was president

in Acts 5:34, doctor of law, honored by all – *beware*

> *and, yes, the teacher of Paul in Acts 22*



Acts 4:8-12 – The Answer – Part ONE

Let it Be Known – Jesus the Cornerstone

Peter's Third Witness

Rulers . . . are you kidding? . . . for an act of kindness?

✓ Peter was an **EXPERT** on eating crow . . . *don't you know*

✓ Peter now . . .

he himself dishes out some crow



Acts 4:8-12 – The Answer – Part ONE

Peter's Third Witness

Rulers and Elders ... are you kidding? ... for an act of kindness?

Know this ... by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth

Whom **YOU** crucified & God raised

Stone **YOU** builders rejected

YOU crucified
YOU rejected

has become the

CORNERSTONE!



Acts 4:8-12 – The Answer – Part TWO

Let it Be Known – Jesus the Cornerstone

Peter's Third Witness

**“Salvation is found in NO ONE else,
for there is NO OTHER NAME under heaven
given to mankind by which we must be saved.”**

Let the world know –



Jesus the Cornerstone

Acts 4:13 – **The Recognition**

KJV – Now when they saw the boldness of Peter & John,
perceived that they were unlearned & ignorant men,
LEADERS marveled; and
they took knowledge of them, that

they had been with Jesus.

with Jesus

any ***EVIDENCE*** you've been with Jesus?



Acts 4:14-22 – Warnings Empower

14 But since they could SEE THE MAN – Crocodile Bill

Something about Crocodile Bill

Everyone knew him, liked him

Knew Crocodile Bill's shriveled feet

who had been healed standing there with them,
there was nothing they could say.



You know what this means ... Peter & John have friends
in LOW Places ... like Crocodile Bill

I'm not big on social graces

Think I'll slip on down to the oasis

So ... I got friends in Low Places



Acts 4:14-22 – **Warnings Empower**

15 So **LEADERS** ordered Peter & John to withdraw ...
conferred together.

16 “What are we going to do with these men?” they asked.

“Everyone living in Jerusalem knows they have
performed a notable sign, and we **CANNOT** deny it.

WHAT does this say about Crocodile Bill? – everyone knew him

WHAT does this say about **LEADERS**'s desiring Fake News?

WHAT does this say about Peter & John's **TRUTH**?



“**Notable Sign**”??? – no, no – Miracle from God

LEADERS admit they themselves **CANNOT DENY**

Acts 4:14-22 – Warnings Empower

17 But to STOP THIS THING from spreading ... we MUST warn them to speak NO LONGER to anyone in this name.”

18 Then they called Peter & John in again & commanded them NOT TO SPEAK or teach at all in the name of Jesus.

Did you see that? . . .

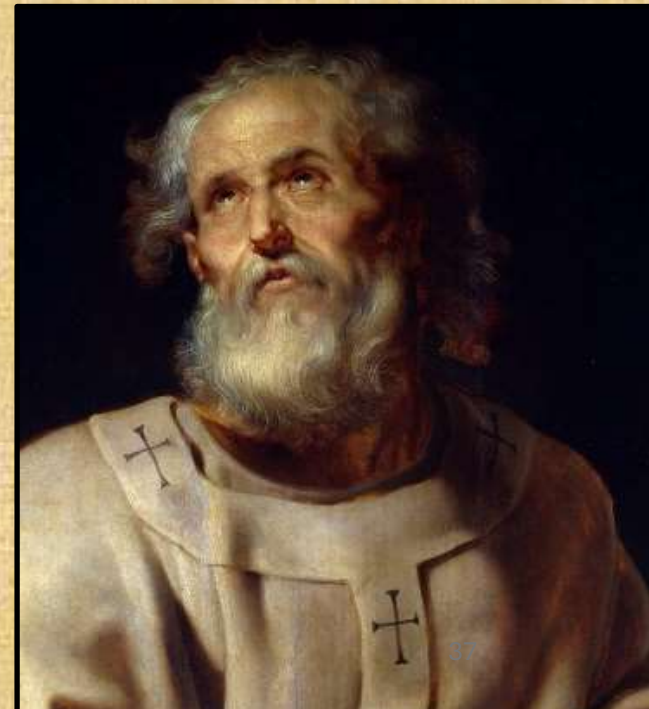
Telling PETER “NOT to SPEAK”!

They did not know PETER very well ...

Nor knew they the Holy Spirit’s Power ...

Nor knew they the power of LOVE ...

Love for God & Love for People



Acts 4:14-22 – Warnings Empower

Then the classic very well-remembered often-memorized verses:

**19 Peter and John replied, “Which is right in God’s eyes:
to listen to you, or to him? – *Jesus?*”**

YOU be the judges!

**20 As for us – Peter & John – we cannot help
speaking about what we have seen and heard.”**

Apostle Peter & John CANNOT stop ... CANNOT be silent

Not so much that they “WILL NOT” ... or “Feel Obligated”

Nor even free “Debt-Driven” – not so much DUTY

Peter & John driven by Love of God & their People



Acts 4:14-22 – Warnings Empower

20 ... speaking about what we have SEEN & HEARD.”

21 After further threats they let them go.
They could not decide how to punish them,

BECAUSE ALL people were praising God for what happened.

22 For the man miraculously healed was

over 40 years old

Biggest question for us – for you & me is

WHAT have we SEEN & HEARD?

That is **MORE** than Obligation or Duty

That **FIRES** our **LOVE** to SPEAK for the

Risen Christ



because of
Crocodile
Bill

