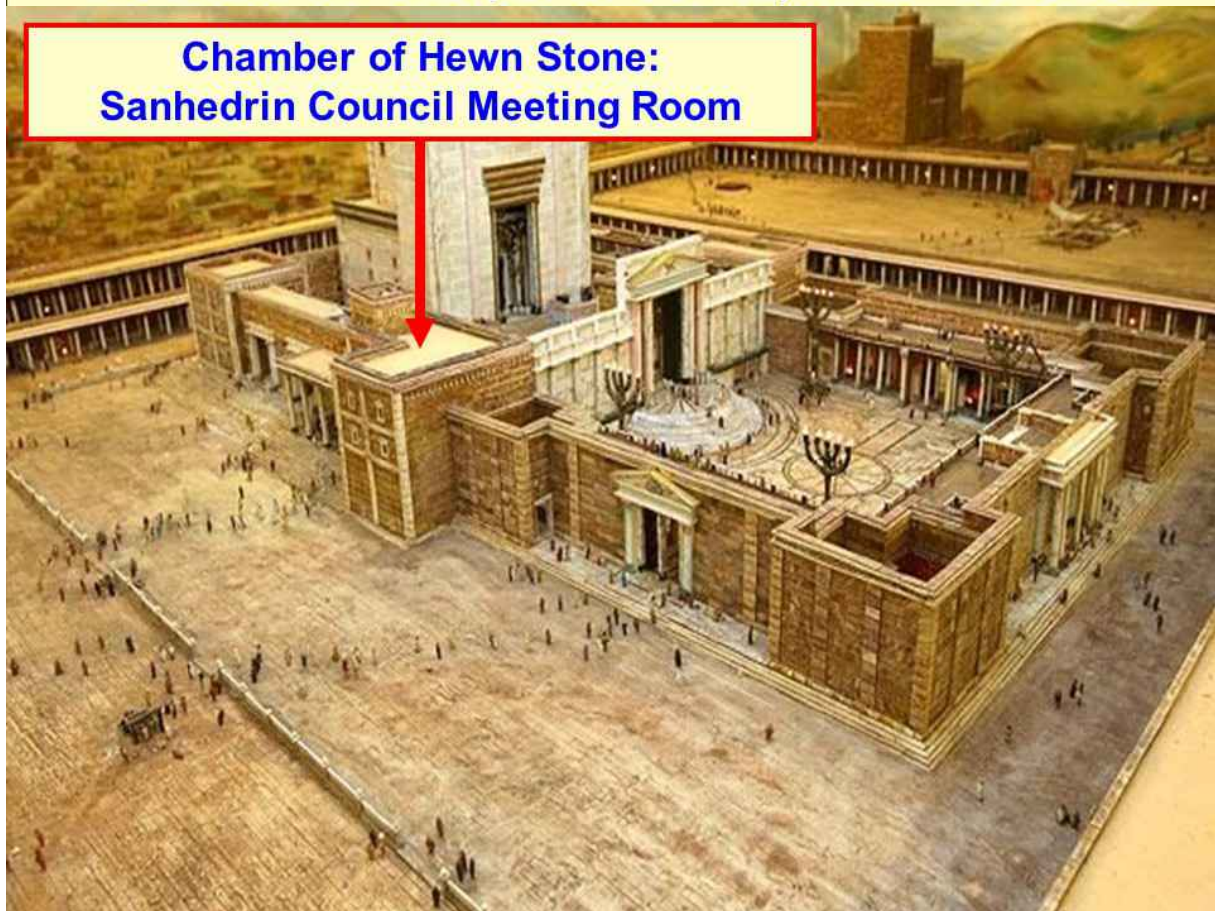
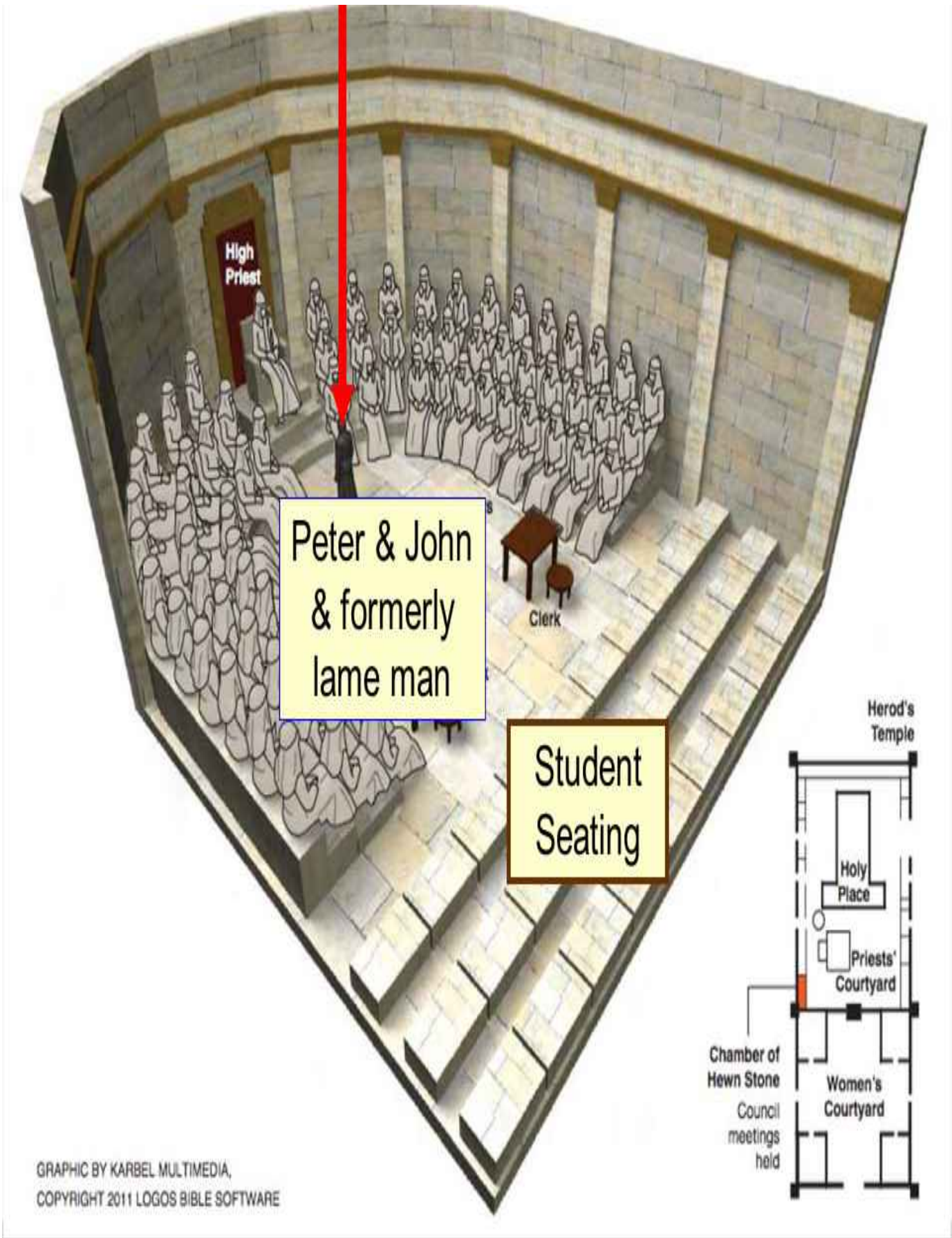


The Temple in Jerusalem as it was during the book of Acts (33 to 60 AD), from the east





<p>Acts 4:13-22</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Important practical implications & applications!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This passage has several important practical implications & applications for us in the body of Christ right here & right now! • We'll be taking a look at those implications & applications as soon as we step our way through this passage. <p style="background-color: yellow;">The implications & applications that come from this passage will have deep significance for us, & for the next generations of believers!</p>	<p>Acts 4:13-14</p> <p style="text-align: center;">They observed the confidence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The members of the Sanhedrin saw, that is, they viewed as spectators, Peter & John. • Seeing Peter & John speak & present themselves as they did was a sight to behold! • What came across as Peter, & likely also John, spoke was that these men were astoundingly confident & bold in what they said & in how they said it to these men who stood in judgment.
<p>Acts 4:13-14</p> <p style="text-align: center;">A couple of Galilean fishermen</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Though these men, Peter & John, had spent a few years with Jesus as His disciples, & Jesus was even generally recognized as a rabbi (though an unorthodox one), they lacked 'polish'. • Peter & John were not schooled in the logic & rhetoric & points of argument that the more well educated & trained members of the Sanhedrin had been (as Sadducees & Pharisees). 	<p style="text-align: center;">John 7:14-15</p> <p>But when it was now the midst of the feast Jesus went up into the temple, and began to teach. 15 The Jews therefore were marveling*, saying, "How has this man become learned, having never been educated+?"</p> <hr style="border: 1px solid red;"/> <p>*Same Gk word as 'amazed' in Acts 4:13 +Same Gk word as '[un]educated in Acts 4:13</p>
<p>Acts 4:13-14</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Oooohhhh...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It began to dawn on these men that Peter & John had been with Jesus, the one whom they had plotted to kill just a few months before, & had in fact 'succeeded' in killing. • These very same men had indeed been with Jesus, & these leaders of the Jews, the Sanhedrin, had thought that killing Jesus would solve all of the problems they had with Him. 	<p>Acts 4:13-14</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Problematic miracles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Sadducees, who were the ones who led the Sanhedrin, did not believe in a physical resurrection, angels, or in miracles – uh oh! • So for there to be an undeniable miracle of healing of this man who was once lame, well, that was a real problem! • But this miracle had not been their first problem!
<p>Acts 4:13-14</p> <p style="text-align: center;">When Jesus did miracles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When Jesus did miracles, in Jerusalem or in other places, that had been quite a problem for the Sanhedrin, but especially the Sadducees. • Jesus often did His miracles on the Sabbath, & broke other 'laws' along the way. • Jesus resurrected Lazarus, & these guys wanted to 'unresurrect' him! <p style="background-color: yellow;">If only they could make the lame man invisible!</p>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

<p>Acts 4:13-14</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Right there in front of them!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • But the man who had been born lame, who was standing right there in front of them all, had been healed in the name of Jesus. • And Peter & John knew that these men knew about him having been lame & so did just about everyone else in Jerusalem! <p style="background-color: yellow;">Would the Sanhedrin order Peter & John to stop healing people? Would the Sanhedrin order them to make this man lame again?</p>	<p>Acts 4:13-14; Matthew 27 & 28; April 3, 4, 5 33 AD</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Rrrrrriiiiiippppp!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It had only been a few months since the veil of the temple had been torn from top to bottom, about 100 feet away from where they were meeting that day. • And the Roman soldiers assigned to guard Jesus' tomb had told the leaders of this group about the angel at the tomb when Christ was resurrected. <p style="background-color: yellow;">These same men gave the soldiers 'hush money'!</p>
<p>Acts 4:15-17</p> <p style="text-align: center;">We need to talk!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Sanhedrin had no idea what to say to Peter & John, or the formerly lame man, so they had Peter & John & the formerly lame man leave the room so they could talk 'in private'. • "What shall we do with these men?" is not simply a question out of rhetoric, or just a formality. • These men were really at their wits end, not knowing what to do! 	<p>Acts 4:15-17</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Getting the bees back in the hive</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Now that the well-known lame man wasn't lame anymore, there was no way to undo the miracle or to keep it quiet & to keep the miracle among themselves. • Caiaphas' plan to have Jesus 'die for the people' wasn't turning out to be so great a 'plan' after all! • Earthquake at Passover, a torn veil, resurrection... <p style="background-color: yellow;">A well-known lame man healed... in Jesus name!</p>
<p>Acts 4:15-17</p> <p style="text-align: center;">So that it will not spread any further</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The leaders of the Jews act like the name of Christ is a disease & they are just trying to stop the epidemic from spreading any more than it has already. • Recall that the term 'the people' means 'the Jews', 'the nation of Israel'. • What are they going to do? • How will they stop the spread? <p style="background-color: yellow;">How does one stop God from doing what He has planned since before He created time?</p>	<p>Acts 4:15-17</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Speak no longer to any man in this name</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The plan was to tell Peter & John 'to speak no longer to any man in this name.' • As if not actually saying the name of 'Jesus' was going to help their cause. • As we've heard in what Jesus already said, & as we're going to hear from Peter shortly, a plan to tell Peter & John not to speak to anyone in the name of Jesus is basically just 'DOA'.
<p>Acts 4:18</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Don't talk about Jesus!?! (1/3)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 12 disciples & many others have just spent a few years with Jesus, many of them memorizing what Jesus said, & they have seen Him perform miracle after miracle. • The disciples had all seen Jesus crucified, buried, resurrected, & eleven of them saw Him ascend into the heavenlies! • Finally, they were just now beginning to understand... 	<p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>

Don't talk about Jesus!? (2/3)

Matthew 28:18-20

And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. 19 Go therefore and make disciples [imperative] of all the nations, baptizing them in the name [singular] of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

Luke 24:45-49

Then He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, 46 and He said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ would suffer and rise again from the dead the third day, 47 and that repentance for forgiveness of sins would be proclaimed in His name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. 48 You are witnesses of these things. 49 And behold, I am sending forth the promise of My Father upon you; but you are to stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."

Acts 1:8

"...but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth."

Acts 4:18

Don't talk about Jesus?! (3/3)

- Having been witnesses of Jesus in all the things that Jesus said & did...
- Having been told about Christ's death, burial & resurrection by Christ Himself, & having seen Him personally...
- Having been told by Christ Himself that the Scriptures had prophesied all these things, & centuries in advance...
- And now, having been empowered by the Holy Spirit as Christ's witnesses...

Acts 4:19-20 (NASU, made more literal, with notes)

But the [singular] Peter and John answered [plural] and said [plural] to them, "Whether it is right in sight of the God to give heed to you rather than to the God, you must judge; 20 for we cannot stop speaking about what we have seen and heard."

Acts 4:19-20

But 'the Peter & John'

- What is amazing in this verse is that the Greek is constructed so as to express that Peter & John are speaking in unison, as one voice & with a single message.
- They were both given the same assignment by Christ & had the same basic role as Christ's apostles & had both been empowered by the same Holy Spirit.

Acts 4:19-20

Y'all have a decision to make!

- The Sanhedrin (aka 'the Council') consisted of 71 men who were a minority of Sadducees, who were the leaders, & a majority of Pharisees, who were among them, to speak & to vote.
- Peter & John put the issue in the right perspective before this well-regarded Jewish body of men:
- Do we obey all of you, or do we obey what God Himself has clearly called for us to do & say?

We ought to expect that they speak in unison!

