

Please put your name here

Study No. 4 The Life of Peter - In Prison



Acts 12: 1-19



1 John 5: 5

Suggested Further Reading

Psalm 4: 8

Luke 11: 9 & 10

Ephesians 3: 20 & 21

Much has happened since Peter and John stood before the Council in the last study. The opposition to the early Christians had continued.

To discover what happened next, put the following statements in the right order by putting the numbers 1 to 10 in the boxes.

- The angel struck Peter on the side (shook him by the shoulder).
- Peter was asleep between two soldiers.
- The chains fell off Peter's wrists.
- Herod had Peter arrested and put in prison.
- A light shone in the cell.
- Peter woke up.
- Peter followed the angel out of the prison.
- Herod had James put to death.
- Peter dressed himself and put on his sandals.
- An angel suddenly appeared.



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Why did Herod have Peter arrested?

1

First of all, the story teaches us about faith or trust in God. Here is a man guarded by sixteen soldiers, bound with chains, awaiting the dawn of his execution day. Yet Peter is sleeping so soundly that the angel has to strike him to wake him up! Only a man trusting in God could sleep under such circumstances.

Look up and write out Psalm 4: 8.

2

An important principle of the Bible is illustrated by the way in which Peter was rescued from prison. The angel broke the chains and opened locked doors, but Peter had to dress himself and find his way home. God will do the impossible but He leaves the rest to us.



It is our responsibility to do the very best we can in God's service, but we must at all times trust Him for the final result.

There is also a lesson in prayer. The church was earnestly praying for Peter but they certainly weren't expecting a miraculous escape.

How do we know this? Give a full answer IN YOUR OWN WORDS.

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Sometimes when we pray, we don't really expect God to answer. It is reassuring to know that answers to prayer depend ultimately, not on our faith, but on God's faithfulness. God often answers prayer in an unexpected way and gives us better things than we could ever imagine.

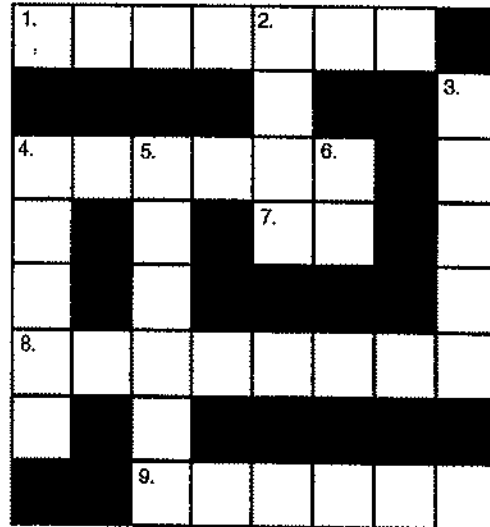
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Clues Across

1. What were the people doing in Mary's house?
4. Peter wasn't sure at first if what was happening to him was real. He thought it was a
7. Did the girl open the door immediately?
8. Herod left Judea to spend a little while here.
9. From which chapter in the Acts does the Bible Reading come?

Clues Down

2. The gate to the city was made of this.
3. The name of the girl.
4. The girl recognized Peter's
5. The angel left Peter in the
6. Herod had a thorough search made for Peter. Did he find him?



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Herod was a hard man. He showed no mercy to the guards. **What happened to them?**

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He had shown no mercy to James at the beginning of the chapter. If Peter had not escaped from prison, no doubt he also would have been killed. This event is an example of God's power being greater than man's power.

When we are Christians, we can rely on this same power working in us.

Write out the Key Verse.

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