

^{4.1} While Peter and John of Zebedee were speaking to the people, the temple-caretakers, the military officer of the temple-complex, and the Sadducees stood over them. ² They were provoked because Peter and John of Zebedee were teaching the people and announcing the resurrection of the dead according to the standard of Jesus. ³ They threw their hands upon them and put them under keeping till the next day, for it was already evening. ⁴ But many of those who were listening to the word trusted and the number of men became about five thousand.

⁵ On the next day, the leaders, elders, and writers gathered together in Jerusalem, ⁶ with Annas the leader of the temple-caretakers, Caiaphas, John, Alexander, and as many that were born from the leaders of the temple-caretakers. ⁷ Standing Peter and John of Zebedee in the middle, they began inquiring of them,

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

⁸ Then Peter, being filled with the Divine Breath, said to them,

“Leaders and elders of the people! ⁹ If today we are being judged for a good deed that has rescued a weak person, ¹⁰ then let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus of Nazareth—the Anointed, whom you crucified, whom the Creator raised from among the dead—by this Jesus, this man is standing healthy in your sight. ¹¹ This Jesus is ‘the stone which was being despised by you, the builders, that became the head of the corner.’ ¹² Rescue is through no other. For there is no other name under heaven which has been given among humanity through which it is necessary for us to be rescued.”

¹³ Seeing the confidence of Peter and John of Zebedee even though they were illiterate and uneducated persons, they marvelled and recognized that they were with Jesus. ¹⁴ Seeing the man, who had been cared for, standing with them, they had nothing to speak against. ¹⁵ Instructing Peter and John of Zebedee to go outside of the Sanhedrin Council, they began coming together with one another, ¹⁶ saying,

“What can we do to these persons? For a clear sign has become known through them to all those dwelling in Jerusalem and we are not able to say ‘no’ to it. ¹⁷ But so it will not spread into the people, let us threaten them to no longer speak on the basis of this name to anyone.”

¹⁸ Calling Peter and John of Zebedee, they directed them to never utter or teach on the basis of the name of Jesus. ¹⁹ But answering, Peter and John of Zebedee said to them,

“Judge whether it is justice, in the sight of your Creator, to listen to anyone other than the Creator. ²⁰ For us, we are not able to stop speaking about the things we saw and listened to.”

²¹ After further threatening, they released Peter and John of Zebedee, not finding out how to keep them in check because the people were all declaring the triumph of the Creator on the basis of what had happened. ²² The person to which this sign of healing happened was over forty years old.

²³ After being released, Peter and John of Zebedee came to their own and reported to them all that the leaders of the temple-caretakers and the elders had said. ²⁴ Listening, they communally lifted up their voice and said,

“Master, you are making heaven, earth, sea, and all which is in them. ²⁵ You are our Father, the one who spoke through the Divine Breath by the mouth of your servant David,

‘Why do the nations go their own way and the peoples focus on empty things? ²⁶ The rulers and leaders of the earth stand and gather together against the Lord and against his Anointed.’

²⁷ For Herod Antipas and Pilate, with the nations and the people of Israel, gathered together in this city against truth, against your divine servant, Jesus, whom you anointed ²⁸ to do all that your hand and desires determined. ²⁹ Now Lord, look upon their threats and give confidence to your slaves to always speak your word, ³⁰ while you extend your hand to make healing, signs, and wonders happen through the

name of your divine servant, Jesus.”

³¹ While they were begging, the place in which they had been gathered together was overthrown and they were all filled by the Divine Breath and began speaking the word of the Creator with confidence.

³² The multitude of those trusting were of one heart and life. No one was saying a single possession was to be her own and everything was held in common by them. ³³ With great power, they were being testimonies to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. Great generosity was upon all of them, ³⁴ for no one among them was in bondage because every owner was selling land, houses, and possessions, bringing the value of the things being sold, ³⁵ and putting them at the feet of the representatives. It was then distributed to each according to the need she was having.

³⁶ Joseph, who the representatives called Barnabas (which is translated “child of exhortation”), a Levite born in the province of Cyprus, ³⁷ after selling a field he possessed, brought the riches and put it at the feet of the representatives. ^{5.1} A man by the name of Ananias, along with his woman Sapphira, sold property, ² held back some from the value while his woman was seeing, and brought part of it to the feet of the representatives. ³ Peter said,

“Ananias, why has the Attacker filled your heart to misrepresent the Divine Breath and hold back from the value of the land? ⁴ After you sold the possession by your own authority, it did not remain yours.

Why was this deed put within your heart? You did not misrepresent humanity, but the Creator!”

⁵ While listening to these words, Ananias fell and his life went out. Fear came upon all those listening. ⁶ Standing up, the young men prepared him and, after bringing him out, buried him. ⁷ After an interval of about three hours, his woman entered, not knowing what had happened. ⁸ Peter said to her,

“Tell me if you were given this much for the land.”

She said,

“Yes, this much.”

⁹ Peter said to her,

“Why was it agreed by you to test the Breath of the Lord? Look! The feet of those who buried your man are at the door and they will bring you out.”

¹⁰ Immediately, she fell to his feet and life went out from her. Entering, the young men found her dead and brought her out to bury her with her man. ¹¹ Great fear came upon the whole community and upon all those listening to these things.