

## Kefa Heals a Disabled Beggar ~ Part 5

In my last post, we continued with the aftermath of **Kefa Heals a Disabled Beggar ~ Part 4**. In this post, we conclude the mini-series of the **Disabled Beggar** when **Kefa and Yochanan Are Warned and Freed**.

***<sup>13</sup> When they saw how bold Kefa and Yochanan were, even though they were untrained 'am-ha'aretz, they were amazed; also, they recognized them as having been with Yeshua.***

***When they saw how bold Kefa and Yochanan were,... they were amazed.*** These "hicks" from the Galil dared to address the core of the establishment and tell them they were wrong! It was the **Ruach HaKodesh** at work in believers who gave such boldness, and He does the same today.

***Untrained 'am-ha'aretz***, literally, "people of the land," just ordinary folks, not systematically educated in the Scriptures and the traditions of either the **P'rushim** or the **Tz'dukim** (who together constituted the **Sanhedrin's** membership). Jewish people have always had high regard for education, and "education" used to mean education in religious matters primarily. Thus, an ***untrained 'am-ha'aretz*** would be guaranteed low social status, and little would be expected of him. The members of the **Sanhedrin** could easily spot these **Galileans** by their up-country accents as persons unlikely to be delivering religious truth. But the **Galileans'** lack of training did not affect the truth of their message: there are uneducated pundits and educated fools.

***<sup>14</sup> Moreover, since they could see the man who had been healed standing right there beside them, there was nothing they could say to discredit the healing. <sup>15</sup> So they told them to step away from the Sanhedrin while they discussed the matter privately. <sup>16</sup> "What can we do with these men?" they asked each other. "Why, anyone in Yerushalayim can see that a remarkable miracle has come about through them - we can't possibly deny that.***

Both the **talmidim** and the **Sanhedrin** recognize that there is no valid basis for a legal charge. Still, as custodians of the **Temple**, they had the police power to control what they consider subversive teachings on what they consider their grounds. Yet rather than repent and believe they focused on damage control.

***<sup>17</sup> But to prevent it from spreading any further among the people, let's warn them not to speak any more to anyone in this name."***

They sought to halt the spread of **Messianic Judaism** at all costs, so they **warned them not to speak any more to anyone in this name**. It seems they wished to guard their status as religious authorities even at the expense of undeniable truth.

Verse 17 raises an interesting question. How can **Luke** ( the author of the Book of Acts) know what went on behind locked doors? We know that **Yosef of Ramatayim** was both a **Believer** and a member of the **Sanhedrin** (Mk 15:43); **Nakdimon**, also a secret **Believer**, was probably in the **Sanhedrin** too (Jn 7:50). In all likelihood, in his research (Lk 1:3), he would have consulted them or other **Sanhedrin** members who came to faith later.

***<sup>18</sup> So they called them in again and ordered them under no circumstances to speak or teach in the name of Yeshua. <sup>19</sup> But Kefa and Yochanan answered, "You must judge whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you rather than God. <sup>20</sup> As for us, we can't help talking about what we have actually seen and heard."***

**Kefa** and **Yochanan's** reference to what they had ***seen and heard*** included their experiences with **Yeshua** plus what they had witnessed since **Shavuot**. All told, they had been eyewitnesses to many of God's revelatory acts.

***<sup>21</sup> They threatened them some more but finally let them go - they couldn't punish them because***

*of the people, for everyone was praising God over what had happened,<sup>22</sup> since the man who had been miraculously healed was more than forty years old. ~ Acts 4:13-22 (CJB)*

Although the **Sanhedrin** backed down, they do not admit wrongdoing, which would be a matter of shame.

In my next two post, we learn more about the last two of the fall **High Holy Days**.