

The Unstoppable Gospel

Acts

Threat to the Church		Result in its Growth	
4:3	³ And they arrested them and put them in custody until the next day, for it was already evening.	⁴ But many of those who had heard the word believed, and the number of the men came to about five thousand ... ²³ When they were released, they went to their friends and reported what the chief priests and the elders had said to them ... ³¹ And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the word of God with boldness.	4:4, 31
5:1-2	¹ But a man named Ananias, with his wife Sapphira, sold a piece of property, ² and with his wife's knowledge he kept back for himself some of the proceeds and brought only a part of it and laid it at the apostles' feet.	³ But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit" ... ⁵ When Ananias heard these words, he fell down and breathed his last. And great fear came upon all who heard of it ... ⁷ After an interval of about three hours his wife came in ... ⁹ But Peter said to her, "How is it that you have agreed together to test the Spirit of the Lord?" ... ¹⁰ Immediately she fell down at his feet and breathed her last ... ¹¹ And great fear came upon the whole church and upon all who heard of these things.	5:5, 11
5:17-18	¹⁷ But the high priest rose up ... and filled with jealousy ¹⁸ they arrested the apostles and put them in the public prison.	¹⁹ But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out, and said, ²⁰ "Go and stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this Life."	5:19-20
5:26-27	²⁶ Then the captain with the officers went and brought them ... ²⁷ And when they had brought them, they set them before the council ... ⁴⁰ and when they had called in the apostles, they beat them and charged them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go.	⁴¹ Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name. ⁴² And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching that the Christ is Jesus.	5:41-42
6:1	¹ Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the	² And the twelve ... said ... "pick out from among you seven men ... whom we will	6:7

	Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution.	appoint to this duty” ... ⁷ And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.	
8:1a	And there arose on that day a great persecution against the church in Jerusalem,	and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria	8:1b
8:3	³ But Saul was ravaging the church, and entering house after house, he dragged off men and women and committed them to prison.	⁴ Now those who were scattered went about preaching the word.	8:4
7:58 8:1, 3	⁵⁸ Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul ... ¹ And Saul approved of his execution ... ³ But Saul was ravaging the church, and entering house after house, he dragged off men and women and committed them to prison.		
9:13-14	¹³ But Ananias answered, “Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints at Jerusalem. ¹⁴ And here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on your name.”	¹⁵ But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is a chosen instrument of mine to carry my name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel. ¹⁶ For I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.” ³¹ So the church throughout all Judea and Galilee and Samaria had peace and was being built up. And walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, it multiplied.	9:15 9:31
12:1-3	¹ About that time Herod the king laid violent hands on some who belonged to the church. ² He killed James the brother of John with the sword, ³ and when he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter also.	⁷ And behold, an angel of the Lord stood next to him, and a light shone in the cell ... and woke him, saying, “Get up quickly.” And the chains fell off his hands ... ²¹ On an appointed day Herod ... delivered an oration ... ²³ Immediately an angel of the Lord struck him down, because he did not give God the glory ... ²⁴ But the word of God increased and multiplied.	12:7 12:24
13:8	⁴ So, being sent out by the Holy Spirit ... they sailed to Cyprus ... ⁸ But Elymas the	⁹ But Saul ... filled with the Holy Spirit ... said, “You son of the devil ... ¹¹ And now,	13:11

	magician (for that is the meaning of his name) opposed them, seeking to turn the proconsul away from the faith.	behold, the hand of the Lord is upon you, and you will be blind” ... Immediately mist and darkness fell upon him ¹² Then the proconsul believed, when he saw what had occurred, for he was astonished at the teaching of the Lord.	13:12
14:19	¹⁹ But Jews came from Antioch and Iconium, and having persuaded the crowds, they stoned Paul and dragged him out of the city, supposing that he was dead.	²⁰ But when the disciples gathered about him, he rose up and entered the city, and on the next day he went on with Barnabas to Derbe. ²¹ When they had preached the gospel to that city and had made many disciples, they returned to Lystra and to Iconium and to Antioch, ²² strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to continue in the faith, and saying that through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God.	14:20-21
15:39a	³⁹ And there arose a sharp disagreement, so that they separated from each other.	Barnabas took Mark with him and sailed away to Cyprus, ⁴⁰ but Paul chose Silas ... ⁴¹ And he went through Syria and Cilicia, strengthening the churches.	15:39b-41
16:22-24	¹⁹ But when her owners saw that their hope of gain was gone, they seized Paul and Silas ... brought them to the magistrates ... ²³ And when they had inflicted many blows upon them, they threw them into prison	²⁵ About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns ... ²⁶ and suddenly there was a great earthquake ... And immediately all the doors were opened, and everyone’s bonds were unfastened. ²⁹ And the jailer ... said, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?” ³¹ And they said, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.”	16:25-26 16:29-31
19:13	¹³ Then some of the itinerant Jewish exorcists undertook to invoke the name of the Lord Jesus over those who had evil spirits, saying, “I adjure you by the Jesus whom Paul proclaims.”	¹⁵ But the evil spirit answered them, “Jesus I know, and Paul I recognize, but who are you?” ¹⁶ And the man in whom was the evil spirit leaped on them, mastered all of them and overpowered them ¹⁷ And this became known to all the residents of Ephesus, both Jews and Greeks. And fear fell upon them all, and the name of the Lord Jesus was extolled. ¹⁸ Also many of those who were now believers came, confessing and divulging their practices. ¹⁹ And a number of those who had practiced	19:15-16 19:17-20

		magic arts brought their books together and burned them in the sight of all ... ²⁰ So the word of the Lord continued to increase and prevail mightily.	
20:9	Paul ... prolonged his speech until midnight ... ⁹ And a young man named Eutychus ... being overcome by sleep, he fell down from the third story and was taken up dead.	¹⁰ But Paul ... said, “Do not be alarmed, for his life is in him” ... ¹² And they took the youth away alive, and were not a little comforted.	20:10, 12a 20:12b