Agape Tife

Gospel Project Bible Study

July 31, 2022 Acts 12

Do You Really Believe That God Answers Prayer?





Session in a Sentence

God responds to the prayers of His people even when they may have difficulty seeing Him at work.





What's the Point?

Point 1: Praying Fervently in a Time of Fear Acts 12:1-5

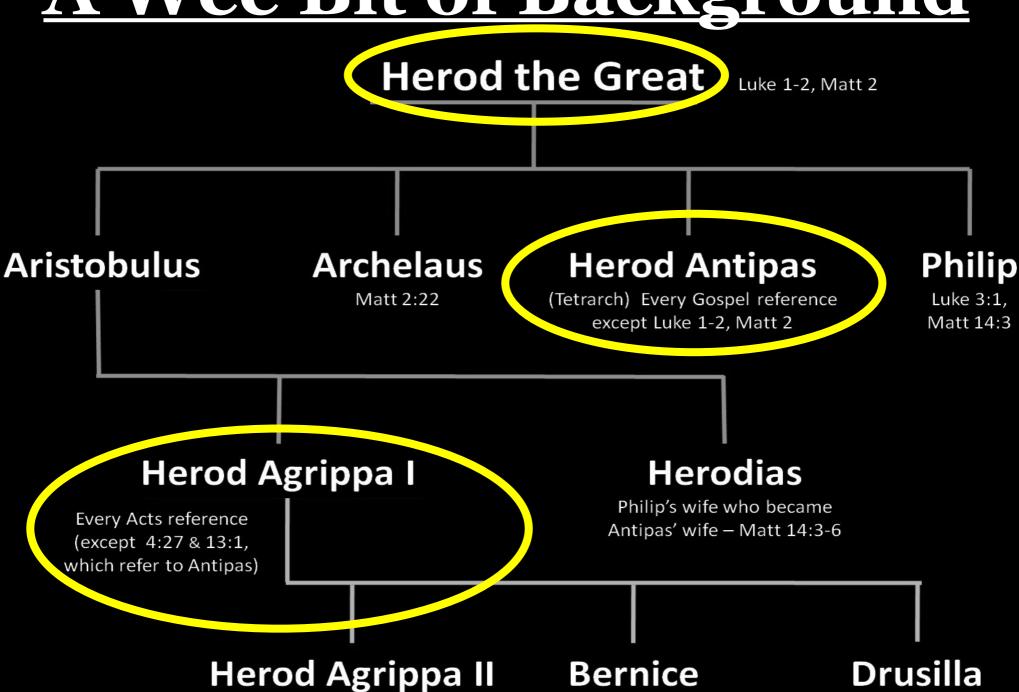
Point 2: Recognizing God's Work in a Time of Rescue Acts 12:6-11

Point 3: Disbelieving in a Time of
Deliverance Acts 12:12-17





A Wee Bit of Background



Every Acts reference to "Agrippa" (chap 25-26)

"Wife" of Agrippa II

Wife of Gov. Felix (Acts 24:24)

Point 1:

Praying Fervently
in a
Time of Fear
Acts 12:1-5





Fear

Fear can be totally debilitating. Fear can be totally immobilizing. Fear can be totally disorienting. Fear can lead to irrational behavior. Fear can lead to destructive behavior. Fear can lead to anger. Fear can affect physical health. Fear can slow and/or shut down thought.





Fear

Psalm 56:3

Psalm 55:22

2 Timothy 1:7

1 Peter 5:7

Philippians 4:6-7





Why should we pray in times of fear?

Will God not act if we fail to pray?

Does God only act when we pray?





Prayer and Providence: The Bible teaches that although God has a _ for this world that He promises to fulfill, prayer is often the means God uses to His divine purpose. Even though God _____ the end result, the means that lead to that end result will be accomplished through prayer.





Prayer and Providence: The Bible teaches that although God has a plan for this world that He promises to fulfill, prayer is often the means God uses to accomplish His divine purpose. Even though God knows the end result, the means that lead to that end result will be accomplished through prayer.





Point 2:

Recognizing God's Work in a Time of Rescue Acts 12:6-11





Point 2: Recognizing God's Work in a Time of Rescue Acts 12:6-11

God moves in mysterious ways. Yes or no?

Isaiah 55:8

"For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways," says the Lord.





Point 3:

Disbelieving in a
Time of Deliverance
Acts 12:12-17





Point 3: Disbelieving in a Time of Deliverance Acts 12:12-17

Mark 9:14-29 Lord, I believe. Help my unbelief.

Mark 9:29-29; Matthew 17:19-21 "This can come out only by prayer and fasting."

It is prayer and fasting that leads to faith.





Special Note on Prayer

If God is sovereign, why do we pray?

We pray "in Jesus' Name" because we are submitting to His authority. Then God, in His sovereignty, can and does act according to what He knows is the best course of action. When Moses "changed God's mind" it wasn't that God didn't know what was going on at the bottom of the mountain. He wanted Moses to be involved in the process – to turn on the faucet of His divine plan and grace.





How Should We Then Live?

God's love, power, and sovereignty are proven throughout scripture and they are proven ultimately in the resurrection of Jesus.

Therefore, we should pray faithfully with anticipation that God will accomplish His purposes when we pray.





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Gospel Project Bible Study
Next Week
August 7, 2022
Acts 13

The Church Is Sent to the World

Agape Life **Volume 11 - Unit 32 - Session 2 The Church Is Sent to the World**

