

ACTIONS OF THE APOSTLES:

Chapter 12

Powerful Prayers to a Powerful God

As this chapter begins, we find a major shift taking place in persecution of the church. Now Herod gets involved. This brings in a political element and resources that the Jews did not have. Herod has the apostle James

What Happened to the Apostles:

1. **Judas:** committed suicide (Mt 27:5)
2. **James:** killed by Herod (Acts 12:2)

As to the rest of the apostles, there are reliable legends as to what happened to them:

Andrew: preached in present day Turkey and Soviet Union. Was crucified in Greece.

Thomas: traveled as far as India. Was pierced by the swords of four soldiers in India.

Philip: Traveled to North Africa. In Asia Minor it is said that he converted the wife of a Roman official. In retaliation he had the apostle executed around AD 54

Matthew: Preached in Persia and Ethiopia. It is reported that he was stabbed to death about the year AD 60.

Bartholomew: Preached in Ethiopia and Arabia. He died as a martyr.

James: Preached in Syria and was stoned to death.

Simon: Killed in Syria when he refused to sacrifice to a sun god.

Thaddeus: Crucified in Edessa around 72.

Matthias: Was burned to death in Syria.

Paul: Traveled to Rome and was beheaded by Caesar.

Peter: Was crucified upside down in Rome.

John: died of natural causes

executed. Peter is arrested with the impression that he will be the next to die. Herod has no real interest in Christianity. He is doing this to gain favor among the Jews. Taking out the leaders is a decisive move to destroy the movement.



- James was not replaced with another apostle.

Peter is in prison heavily _____ (12:4, 6)
- *The eyes of the Lord are over the righteous* (1 Pet 3:12)

The church was praying _____ (12:5)
- *And his ears are open unto their prayers* (1 Pet 3:12)
They were praying _____
They were praying _____
They were praying _____ (5)
- Prayer goes where we can't

Mighty _____ **that allowed Peter to be released** (12:7-17)
- God can move _____ and in ways we can't understand
- Prayer did what they _____
- Notice the continual action ("kept," "continued" -15, 16)

Why did the church not believe it was Peter at the door?

Which James is referred to in (v. 17)?

Herod had the guards _____ (12:19)

Herod is _____ **because of his prideful blasphemy (12:20-23)**
God's word cannot be bound (12:24)
God's word is penetrating (Heb 4:12)

What are some big prayers we ought to be praying as a church?

