

Tuesday, March 14

Acts 2: 1-24

MULTIPLY YOUR PRAISE

Acts 12:24 (NIV)...*But the word of God continued to spread and flourish.*

I love the book of Acts! I really Love it! It's one of my favorite books in the Bible! Reading about the way the church grew despite opposition has always been a reminder of God's faithfulness. The book of Acts reminds us that God's plan is going to happen no matter what!

Now to our present text. Verses 1-11 of Acts 12, share King Herod's campaign to persecute the church (Acts 12:1). He had one disciple killed and Peter imprisoned. However, an angel rescued Peter from prison. When next we see Herod, he is dressed in royal robes delivering a public address and enjoying the accolades of the people who shouted, "this is the voice of a god, not a man" (Acts 12:22). Herod is killed immediately because "he did not give praise to God." Now, I am guessing that Herod is not a believer, he was persecuting the church. So, why would God kill Herod for not giving Him (God) the praise? Is praise so important to God that he requires it of everyone? Hm. And, (not that we will face the same fate as Herod), but what are the implications for us when we do not praise God? How does that impact our lives? And what will happen to us when we accept praise that belongs to God?

I don't know about you but I'm not trying to find out. I will do what David did in Psalm 34:1, "I will extol the Lord at all times; his praise will always be on my lips."

PRAYER

Dear God, thank you for forgiving us when we come to you with repentant hearts. Thank you for loving us in our brokenness and sinfulness. God, you want to restore us to wholeness, and you have given us that opportunity repeatedly. We desire to obey your laws so we can live in the abundance you have for us. In Jesus' Mighty Name... Amen.