

Peter's Guardian Angel springs him from Prison

The government begins to persecute the Church

Acts 12: 1 Now about that time Herod (Agrippa) the king laid hands on some who belonged to the church in order to mistreat them.

2 And he had James the brother of John put to death with a sword.

3 When he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter also. Now it was during the days of Unleavened Bread.

4 When he had seized him, he put him in prison, delivering him to four ~~squads~~ **quaternions** of soldiers to guard him, intending after the Passover to bring him out before the people.

5 So Peter was kept in the prison, but prayer for him was being made fervently by the church to God.

6 On the very night when Herod was about to bring him forward, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and guards in front of the door were watching over the prison.

John 21:18 (Jesus said) "When you grow old, you will stretch out your hands and someone else will gird you, and bring you where you do not wish to go."

Proverbs 15:19 ... the path of the upright is a highway.

7 And behold, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared and a light shone in the cell; and he struck Peter's side and woke him up, saying, "Get up quickly." And his chains fell off his hands.

8 And the angel said to him, "Gird yourself and put on your sandals." And he did so. And he said to him, "Wrap your cloak around you and follow me."

9 And he went out and continued to follow, and he did not know that what was being done by the angel was real, but thought he was seeing a vision.

10 When they had passed the first and second guard, they came to the iron gate that leads into the city, which opened for them by itself; and they went out and went along one street, and immediately the angel departed from him.

11 When Peter came to himself, he said, "Now I know for sure that the Lord has sent forth His angel and rescued me from the hand of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting."

12 And when he realized this, he went to the house of Mary, the mother of John who was also called Mark, where many were gathered together and were praying.

Hebrews 1:14 ...ministering spirits, sent out to render service for the sake of those who will inherit salvation

Psalms 91:12 They will bear you up in their hands, that you do not strike your foot against a stone.

- 13-14** When he knocked at the door of the gate, a servant-girl named Rhoda came to answer. When she recognized Peter's voice, because of her joy she did not open the gate, but ran in and announced that Peter was standing in front of the gate.
- 15** They said to her, "You are out of your mind!" But she kept insisting that it was so. They kept saying, "It is his angel."
- 16 - 17** But Peter continued knocking; and when they had opened the door, they saw him and were amazed. But motioning to them with his hand to be silent, he described to them how the Lord had led him out of the prison. And he said, "Report these things to James and ~~the brethren~~ **the brothers.**" Then he left and went to another place.
- 18** Now when day came, there was no small disturbance among the soldiers as to what could have become of Peter.
- 19** When Herod had searched for him and had not found him, he ~~examined~~ **interrogated** the guards and ordered that they be led away to execution. Then he went down from Judea to Caesarea and was spending time there.
- 20** Now he was very angry with the people of Tyre and Sidon; and with one accord they came to him, and having won over Blastus the king's chamberlain, they were asking for peace, because their country was fed by the king's country.
- 21** On an appointed day Herod, having put on his royal apparel, took his seat on the rostrum and began delivering an address to them.
- 22** The people kept crying out, "The voice of a god and not of a man!"
- 23** And immediately an angel of the Lord struck him because he did not give God the glory, and he was eaten by worms and died.
- 24** But the word of the Lord continued to grow and to be multiplied.

Psalms 102:19-20 For He looked down from His holy height; From heaven the LORD gazed upon the earth to hear the groaning of the prisoner, to set free those who were doomed to death

Psalms 107:10 There were those who dwelt in darkness and in the shadow of death, prisoners in misery and chains

Ephesians 2:1-2 And you were dead in your trespasses and sins, in which you formerly walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air

2 Corinthians 4:4 The god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they ~~might not~~ **would not have the ability to** see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

1 Peter 2:9 ...Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light

John 5:24 "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life."

Romans 4:5 But to the one who does ~~not work~~ **no work**, but believes in Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is credited as righteousness