

THE BOOK OF ACTS

ACTS 4:22-37 | LESSON SUMMARY

Disability & Proximity

ACTS 4:22, "...all were praising God for what had happened. For the man on whom this sign of healing was performed was more than forty years old." (ESV)

- He was well known, as was his physical impairment.
 - His age suggests that hope of recovery was long gone
 - His disability impairs proximity

ACTS 4:24-25, "...they lifted their voices together to God and said, "Sovereign Lord, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and everything in them, who through the mouth of our father David, your servant, said by the Holy Spirit, "Why did the Gentiles rage, and the peoples plot in vain?"

- "They lifted their voices together"
 - They sing a song of David
 - The unity of this moment is elevated by recognizing shared history
 - **THE NUMBER 40**: Gen 7, Exodus 34:28, Number 14:34, Deuteronomy 8:2, 1 Sam 17:16



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Boldness

ACTS 4:31, "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." (ESV)

- This is the fourth time it is said that they were empowered with "boldness"
 - Greek word "**παρρησία**"
 - The definition is both freedom and "without ambiguity"
 - The "simple" language is courageous and without pretense

Generosity

ACTS 4:32, "All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had." (ESV)

- There was no need
 - Joseph, a Levite from Cyprus (4:36-37)

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES: Craig Keener, Acts: An Exegetical Commentary, Randall Price, Zondervan Handbook of Biblical Archeology, The Holman Bible Atlas

