

The Church on Mission

"But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me..." Acts 1:8

Good News Baptist Church
AM Message

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June 21, 2020

CONFIDENCE IN CONSPIRACIES OR PROVIDENCE? PART 1

Acts 23:11-13

Context: Paul has been spared two near death encounters from mob violence in Jerusalem, incited over suspecting Paul violated the temple's sanctity. Roman officials cannot find out the cause of the riot and allow the Sanhedrin to examine Paul. Paul divides the council over their belief or denial of the resurrection, and the Roman soldiers rescue him. Another plot to kill him is brewing in our passage.

God wants us to have a fearless confidence in His providential leading, although we will not know many details.

Fearless confidence in Your Faithful God Remembers:

- I. To be encouraged by His presence (Acts 23:11a; 4:31; 18:9-10; 2 Timothy 4:16-17; Matthew 28:19-20).
 - II. God commands you to not be afraid in danger (Acts 23:11b; 2 Corinthians 1:4-5; Hebrews 13:5-6).
 - III. God's mission for you and rests in His providence (Acts 23:11c-d).
 - IV. Conspiracies are subject to God's control (Acts 23:12-15; Isaiah 54:17).
 - V. God is more powerful than the plot against us (Acts 23:16-22).
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- *Is your faith courageous? Live knowing God is more powerfully at work behind the scenes than malicious opponents.*
 - *We must believe vengeance is God's, and He will repay.*
 - *Vigilantism is a sinful distrust in God and misplaced faith in our own form of justice. Violent reprisal has no place in Christianity (John 16:1-3).*
 - *The Lord has a real sympathy for us in our real difficulties (Hebrews 2:16). We act like Jesus when we encourage others.*