

BY WHAT AUTHORITY IN WHOSE NAME HAVE MEN LIKE  
YOU DONE THIS Acts. 4:7

I. The Background Of The Council Meeting.

- a. Council of ecclesiastical rulers. Highest official of the Jewish church.
- b. The apostles who were brought before them the men of ordinary families. Not distinguished intellectually, socially, or religiously.
- c. The question was concerning authority and a name.

II. The Atmosphere Of The Council Meeting.

- a. It was supercilious. Haughty pride. Supercilious means lifting the eyebrow in haughtiness and disdain.
- b. It was complacent. They were not lowering the eyebrow in thinking in order to find out the facts of the new movement, but were satisfied with what they had.
- c. It was full of snobbish contempt.

III. The Lessons Of The Council.

- a. The danger of blacking the channels of our minds and our hearts.
- b. The mistake of being so much concerned about small things that we shall overlook the mighty matters of life. They did not question fact, nor the need of healing, etc.
- c. That regularity should not be taken too seriously. "God's revelations frequently come outside of the regular appointed channels. This has happened often because the channels were closed, through arrogant complacency and contempt akin to that of these rulers; elders and scribes." The birth of Christ an illustration, as well as the coming of the Holy Ghost.