Not This Time

Ken Chapman · Acts 5:27–42

INTRODUCTION

- There's some things in life you don't get a second chance. Jumping out of an airplane is one of those.
- The wise among us don't just pick ourselves up and try again, but we try harder the next time.
- When we do become discouraged and give up and fail, we don't lose heart because we can pick ourselves up and start over.

1 The Apostles Say, Not This Time

Acts 5:27–32; Acts 5:33–40

- We've seen them disappoint our Lord over and over again.
- We saw them run away and betray and deny.
- But through the pages of history, these twelve men are yelling back at us, saying, Not this time.
- For if this plan or if this work is of men, it'll come to nothing. But if it's of God, you cannot overthrow it lest you even be found to fight against God.
- Our leader has been killed. But this isn't going to go away. We failed and fled in the past. But not this time.

2 When Satan and Temptation Say, Give Up

Matthew 4:10; James 4:7; Ephesians 4:26–27

- I can look through my own diary and see time after time when he's won the battle, and I lost. But maybe it's time for me to stand up and say, not this time.
- Away with you, Satan, for it is written, you shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve.
- Jesus not only endures these temptations, he defiantly endures these temptations.
- Therefore, submit to God, resist the devil, and he will flee from you.
- Maybe I need to be angry with the devil and temptation and not give him a foothold.

3 When the World Tells You to Shut Up

Acts 5:28–32; Acts 5:42

- When the world and ridicule and slander and humiliation and intolerance tell you to shut up, you defiantly say, not this time.
- His parents said these things because they feared the Jews.
- Like these parents, I haven't always stood up for my Lord.
- Peter, who had backed down before, who had been intimidated enough to deny our Lord three times, Peter says we ought to obey God rather than men.
- Daily in the temple in every house, they did not cease. Teaching and preaching Jesus is Christ.

THE CHALLENGE

Will you not be ashamed or intimidated or pushed around anymore? Or will you do what you need to do in order to be his friend and to stand up and say, not this time. I will follow Jesus.

MY NOTES