

**Series "The Acts Of God"**  
**"Prayer Opens Doors"**  
**Acts 12:1-25**  
**Study-23**

**Acts 12:1-11**

**Mark 11:23-24**

**1 Peter 3:12**

"His Power is available and sufficient to meet our every need"

**1. Verses 1-4 – The Christian's Weakness**

**2. Verses 5-17 – God's Unlimited Power**

**3. Verses 18-25 – God's Righteous Judgment**

**1. Verses 1-4 – The Christian's Weakness:**

Acts 12:1

"Herod the king" – Herod Agrippa 1<sup>st</sup> who was the grandson of Herod the Great.

This is the 5<sup>th</sup> Recorded Persecution Against the Church:

1. With the Sadducees, elders, rulers, and scribes. Acts 4
2. With Sadducees alone because of preaching of the resurrection. Acts 5
3. With the synagogue of the Libertines brought Stephen to trial. Acts 6
4. With Saul headed intense persecution that scattered the church. Acts 8
5. Now Herod Agrippa. (Political Powers) Acts 12

Acts 12:2

This is James the son of Zebedee, the older brother of John.

Mark 10:39

Acts 1:8 witnesses – "You shall be martyrs"; James – first Apostle to be martyred.

Acts 12:3-4

Acts 5:19

## **2. Verses 5-17 – God’s Unlimited Power:**

Acts 12:5

Note 4 things about prayer are revealed:

1. Prayer was Specific – but prayer for him
2. Prayer was Fervent – was being made fervently – “to stretch out, to extend to cast”
3. Prayer was Corporate – by the church
4. Prayer was to God – to God.

James 5:16

Acts 12:6

Peter is recorded to have fallen asleep 3 times in the Scripture.

1. At the Transfiguration Luke 9:32
2. At the Garden of Gethsemane Matt. 26:40
3. In prison Acts 12:6

The Church was Praying for Peter.

Jesus had Promised Peter a Long Life.

John 21:18

Acts 12:7

Heb 11:32-34

Acts 12:8-10

“We can expect God to do the impossible if we obey and do the possible.”

Acts 12:11-15

Church’s Unbelief – “And they said to her, ‘You are out of your mind!’”

Col. 4:2

Acts 12:16-17

### **3. Verses 18-25 – God’s Righteous Judgment:**

Acts 12:18-23

Graham Scroggie – “Pride goes too far when it reaches to the throne of God.”

“and he was eaten by worms and died.”; Eaten by worms and then died.

Acts 12:24-25

#### **Application:**

1. Prayer has been defined as, “an offering up of our desires unto God for things agreeable to His will.” Prayer is not for the things we want but rather for the will of God.
2. Opposition to God’s People Took Place When the Church Added Souls:
3. God Glories in Doing the Impossible:
4. What Situation or Situations do We Need to Pray Specifically For?
5. As We Pray, Keep Alert to See How and When God Answers Prayer: