

Church and State – The Early Church in Acts Lesson 3 – Conflict with Jewish Authority

- I. When persecuted, the church did **not**:
- a. _____
- b. _____
- II. The **Secret** of the Church's Resilience in the Face of Threats and Persecution

For Further Discussion:

1. At first, the authorities used threats and intimidation against the Christians. Why didn't that work?
2. When the authorities put Peter and the other apostles in prison, what difference would it have made if they were not freed by an angel? Would they have continued preaching?
3. Can you imagine rejoicing when you suffered for being a Christian?
4. Do you think God is orchestrating the future of the church today?

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An Angel Frees Peter from Prison, 12th Century, Palermo