

Jesus Advances His Mission—Acts 12:1–24

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Throughout the book of Acts, Luke posts brief updates on the progress of Jesus' mission, as his witnesses take the gospel from Jerusalem, to Judea and Samaria, and unto the ends of the earth (Acts 1:8; see 2:47; 5:14; 6:7; 8:4; 9:31; 11:24; 19:20).

Remarkably, this advancement goes forward despite vicious attacks against the believers; for the Lord himself is building his church. Acts 12 is a perfect example of Jesus' advancing his mission, unthwarted by the opposition of the enemy, giving us, his witnesses today, exceptional confidence in the face of mounting resistance.

1. The Threat to Jesus' Mission (12:1–5a)
2. The Prayer of Jesus' Witnesses (12:5b; 12b)
3. The Rescue of Jesus' Witness (12:6–17)
4. The Judgment of Jesus Enemies (12:18–23)
5. The Advancement of Jesus' Mission (12:24)