



**THE CHURCH IS**

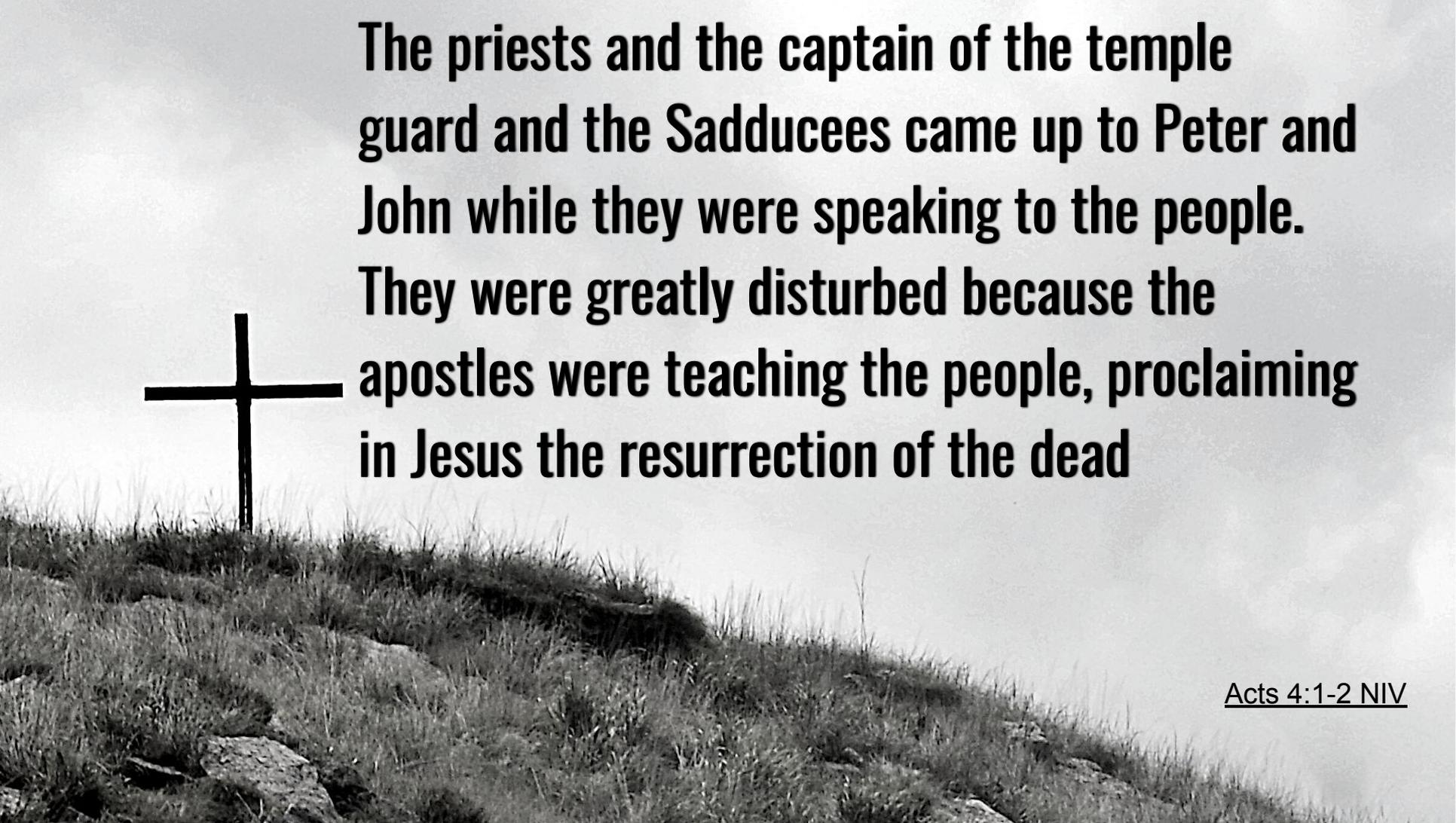
*Born*

**ACTS: 1-12**

# Main Point

**Resistance comes, resistance goes  
But resistance helps us grow**



A black cross stands on a grassy hillside. The background is a cloudy sky. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

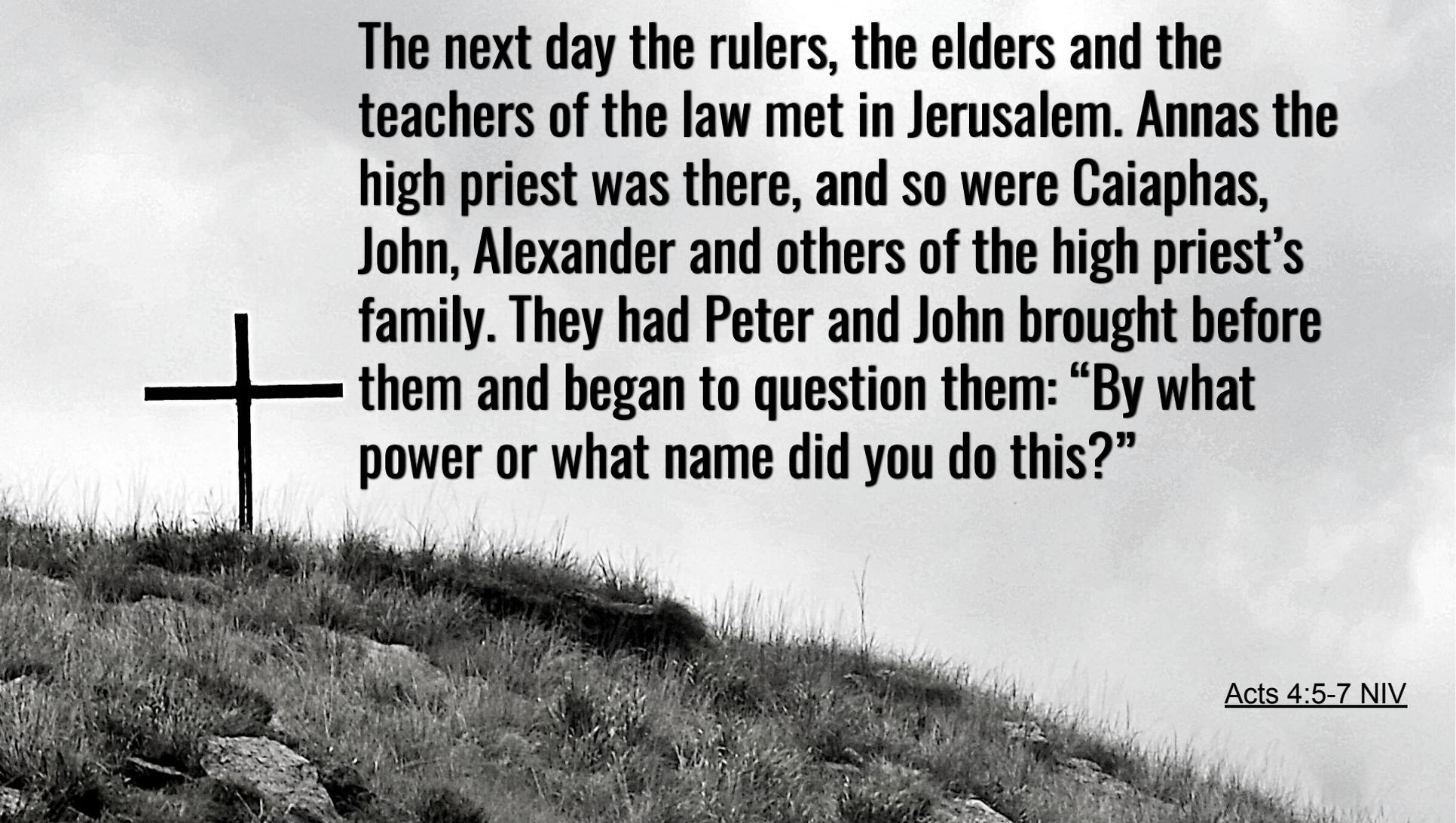
**The priests and the captain of the temple guard and the Sadducees came up to Peter and John while they were speaking to the people. They were greatly disturbed because the apostles were teaching the people, proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection of the dead**

Acts 4:1-2 NIV

**They seized Peter and John and, because it was evening, they put them in jail until the next day. But many who heard the message believed; so the number of men who believed grew to about five thousand.**



Acts 4:3-4 NIV

A black silhouette of a cross stands on a grassy hill. The background is a cloudy sky. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

**The next day the rulers, the elders and the teachers of the law met in Jerusalem. Annas the high priest was there, and so were Caiaphas, John, Alexander and others of the high priest's family. They had Peter and John brought before them and began to question them: "By what power or what name did you do this?"**

Acts 4:5-7 NIV

**Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them: “Rulers and elders of the people! If we are being called to account today for an act of kindness shown to a man who was lame and are being asked how he was healed,**



Acts 4:8-9 NIV

**Then know this, you and all the people of Israel: It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed.**



Acts 4:10 NIV

**Jesus is “the stone you builders rejected, which has become the cornerstone.’ Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.”**



Acts 4:11-12 NIV

# Resistance Comes

- ❑ Sadducees and others aren't happy
- ❑ The resurrection is a problem
- ❑ This threatens their status quo



# Resistance Comes

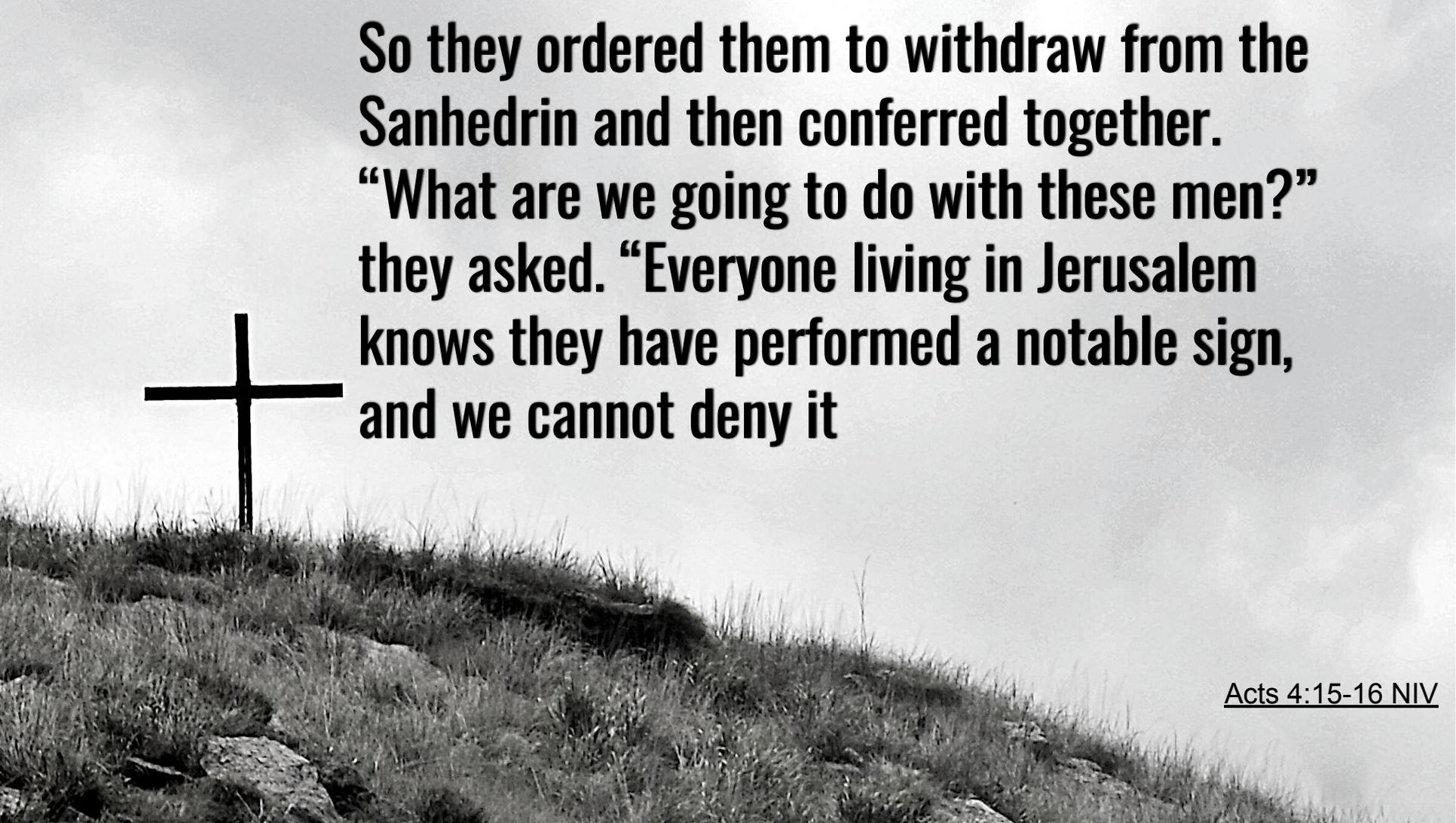
- ❑ Resistance comes in different forms
  - ❑ Non-Christians and Christians
  - ❑ Resistance doesn't mean you're doing something wrong



**When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus. But since they could see the man who had been healed standing there with them, there was nothing they could say.**



Acts 4:13-14 NIV

A black cross stands on a grassy hillside. The background is a cloudy sky. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

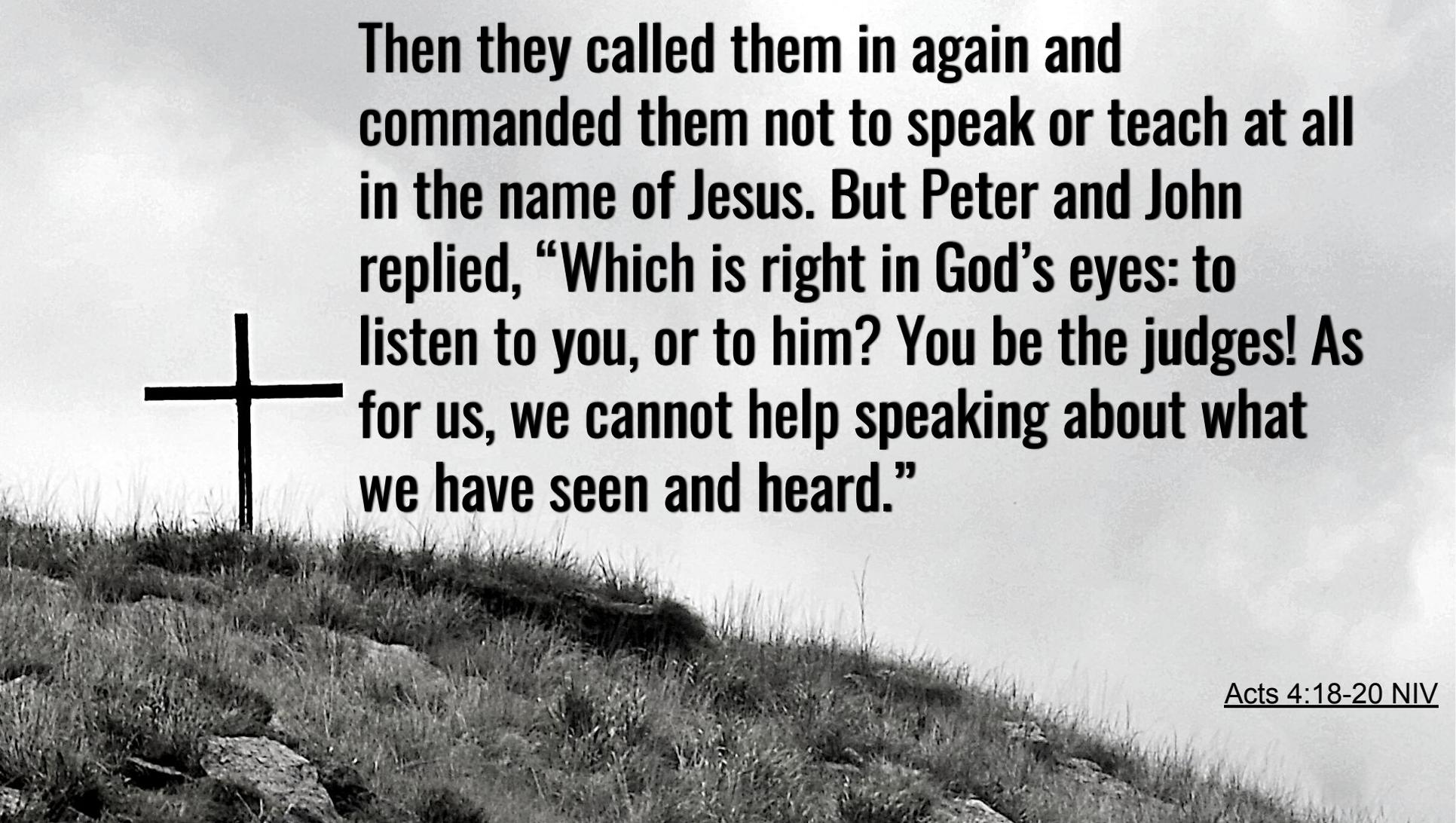
**So they ordered them to withdraw from the Sanhedrin and then conferred together. “What are we going to do with these men?” they asked. “Everyone living in Jerusalem knows they have performed a notable sign, and we cannot deny it**

Acts 4:15-16 NIV

**But to stop this thing from spreading any further among the people, we must warn them to speak no longer to anyone in this name.”**



Acts 4:17 NIV



**Then they called them in again and commanded them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus. But Peter and John replied, “Which is right in God’s eyes: to listen to you, or to him? You be the judges! As for us, we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard.”**

Acts 4:18-20 NIV

**After further threats they let them go. They could not decide how to punish them, because all the people were praising God for what had happened. For the man who was miraculously healed was over forty years old.**



Acts 4:21-22 NIV

# Resistance Goes

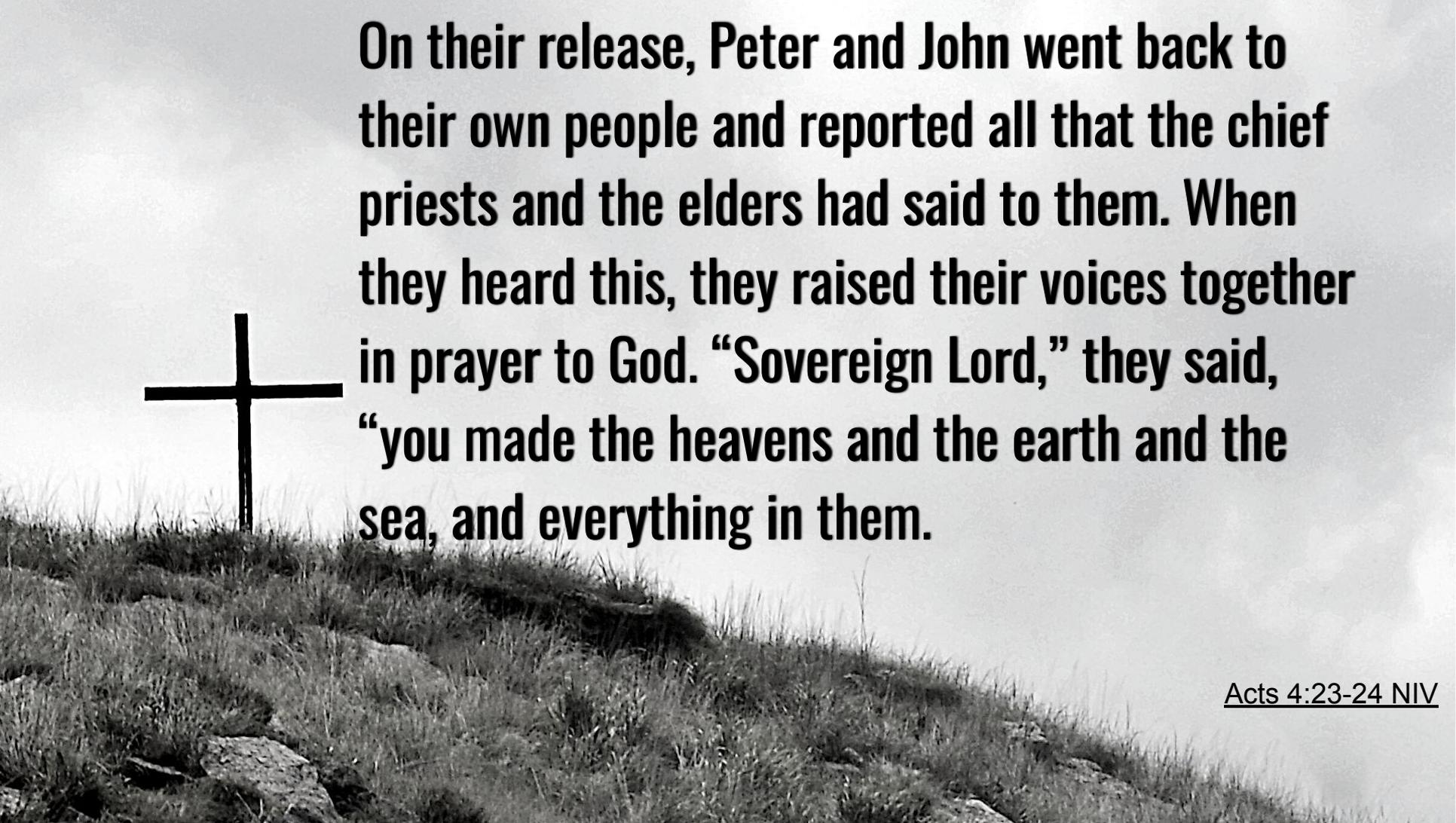
- ❑ Peter and John showed courage
- ❑ They had been with Jesus
- ❑ Peter held firm



# Resistance Goes

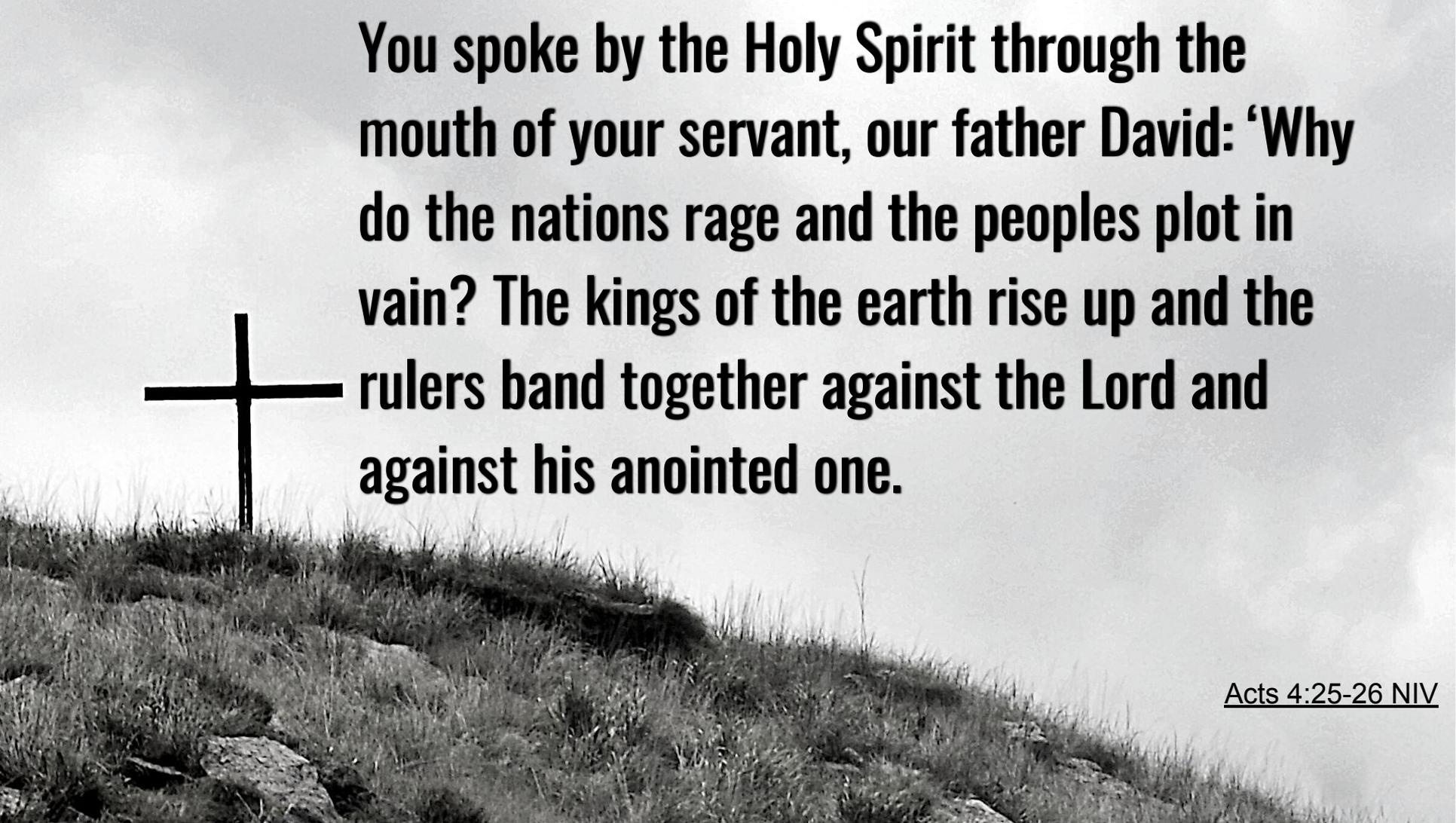
- ❑ Stand firm
- ❑ Don't go on the attack
- ❑ Don't recoil



A black cross stands on a grassy hillside under a cloudy sky. The cross is positioned on the left side of the image, with its vertical post extending down to the ground and its horizontal arms extending outwards. The hillside is covered in tall grass and some rocks, and the sky is filled with soft, white clouds. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image, in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

**On their release, Peter and John went back to their own people and reported all that the chief priests and the elders had said to them. When they heard this, they raised their voices together in prayer to God. “Sovereign Lord,” they said, “you made the heavens and the earth and the sea, and everything in them.**

Acts 4:23-24 NIV

A black cross stands on a grassy hillside under a cloudy sky. The cross is positioned on the left side of the frame, with its vertical post extending from the bottom of the hill towards the top. The horizontal bar of the cross is also visible, extending to the right. The hillside is covered in tall grass and some rocks. The sky is filled with soft, white clouds.

**You spoke by the Holy Spirit through the mouth of your servant, our father David: ‘Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain? The kings of the earth rise up and the rulers band together against the Lord and against his anointed one.**

Acts 4:25-26 NIV

**Indeed Herod and Pontius Pilate met together with the Gentiles and the people of Israel in this city to conspire against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed. They did what your power and will had decided beforehand should happen.**



Acts 4:27-28 NIV

**Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. Stretch out your hand to heal and perform signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus.**



Acts 4:29-30 NIV

**After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.**



Acts 4:31 NIV

# Resistance Helps Us Grow

- Prayed with others
- Asked for God's boldness
- The Holy Spirit's presence was there



# Resistance Helps Us Grow

- ❑ See resistance as a growth opportunity
- ❑ Focus on growth and not on beating something down
- ❑ It's not always easy but it's worth it



# Closing

- ❑ **Accept resistance**
- ❑ **Stand firm**
- ❑ **Let yourself grow**

