



Talk Outline - Acts 12 - Persecution 3

ALL NATIONS
CHURCH

BARKINGSIDE & CLAYHALL

- God's sovereignty & human responsibility - compatible?

- **Acts 1-11** so far: God's sovereignty & human responsibility in tension working together - we need a healthy dose of both!

- **Acts 12**: we see both these truths worked out specifically:
 1. **God's Sovereignty**: Over lives & unwise rule of powerful governments & continues to build his church despite their persecution (v1-4, 6-11, 18-19, 23-25).

—> So...let's trust in God's sovereign plan for the church & world

 2. **Human Responsibility**: Praying earnestly for wise rule, social justice & church growth (v5, 12-16)

—> So...let's eagerly anticipate answers to our prayers for these things

Discussion Questions in Breakouts:

- A. Why do we need a healthy dose of BOTH God's Sovereignty & Human Responsibility working together in tension in our life?

- B. How is knowing the truth that God is Sovereign both an encouragement and a challenge in: i) these times we live in?; ii) the mission of the church?; iii) your personal walk with the Lord?; iv) your personal evangelism?

- C. How can we encourage one another to: i) be a praying church? ii) be eagerly anticipating answers to wise rule, social justice & church growth?