

# **DON'T "PUT THE CART BEFORE THE HORSE."**

Preparations are critical for the success of any endeavor. People plan trips; athletes train before competing; generals plan before starting a campaign; as disciples of Christ we must be prepared before we preach the gospel.

## **GOD KNEW AND GOD PLANNED**

**Acts 4:27 For of a truth against thy holy child Jesus, whom thou hast anointed, both Herod, and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles, and the people of Israel, were gathered together,**

This verse hints that the Passion of Jesus Christ was a Trinitarian plan. The anointing and predictive prophecy confirmed recent events in Jerusalem.

It is difficult for spiritual people to realize unpleasant events could have possibly been planned by God for greater good. (see Joseph's remarks: **Genesis 50:20**)

## **GOD FOR SURE PRE-DETERMINES SPECIFIC EVENTS.**

**28 For to do whatsoever thy hand and thy counsel determined before to be done.  
29 And now, Lord, behold their threatenings: and grant unto thy servants, that with all boldness they may speak thy word,**

The fulfillment of prophecy is a certain anchor for our faith. (**2 Peter 1:19**) When our faith is fortified we can be encouraged to do the will of God.

David knew God called and anointed him to be king but that did not mean there would be no struggle. (**1 Samuel 19:15**)

Therefore, we need the boldness of God to struggle against the enemy of the true gospel. (**Ephesians 6:12**)

## **CONFIRMATION**

**30 By stretching forth thine hand to heal; and that signs and wonders may be done by the name of thy holy child Jesus.**

The church needed God to confirm to the world that their message was from Him. We too can be sure that God will validate our preaching if pray and preach the true message of God. (**Hebrew 2:4**)

## **FILLED WITH THE HOLY GHOST**

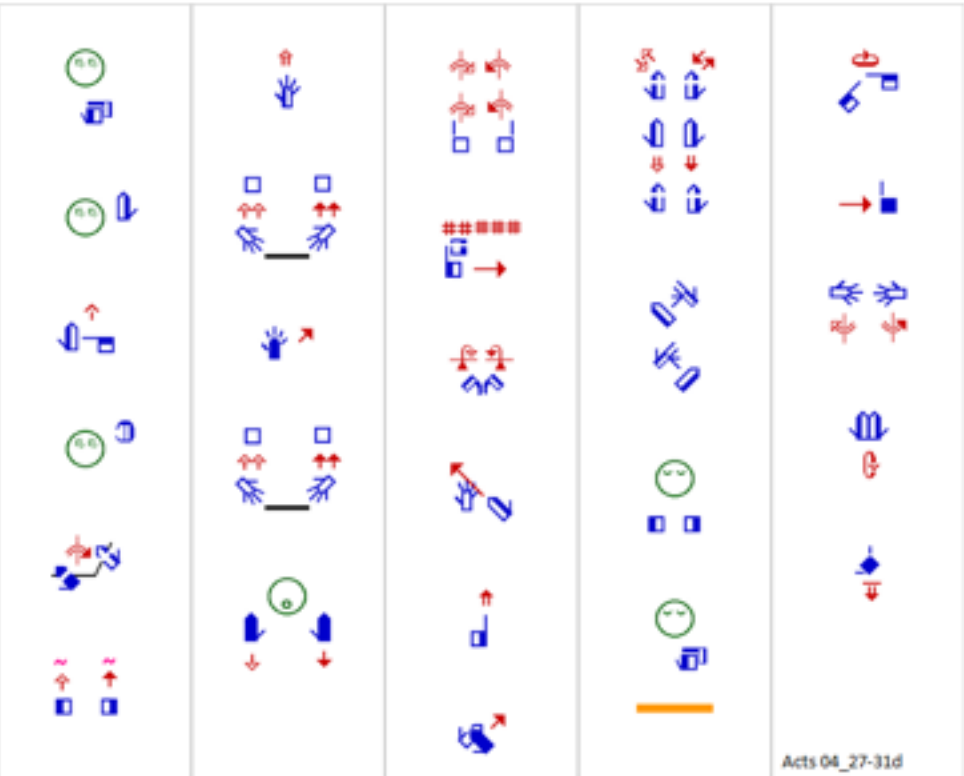
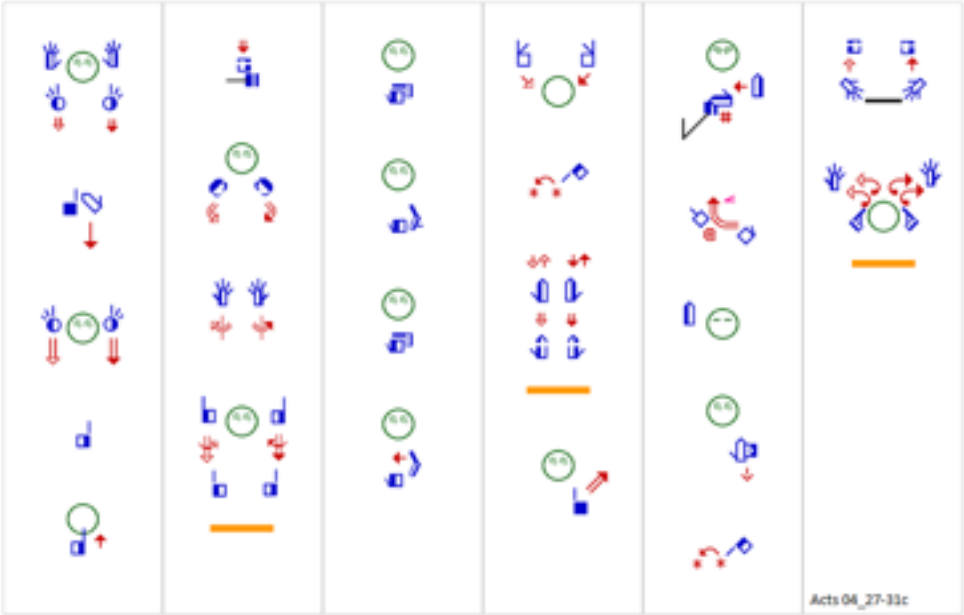
**31 And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.**

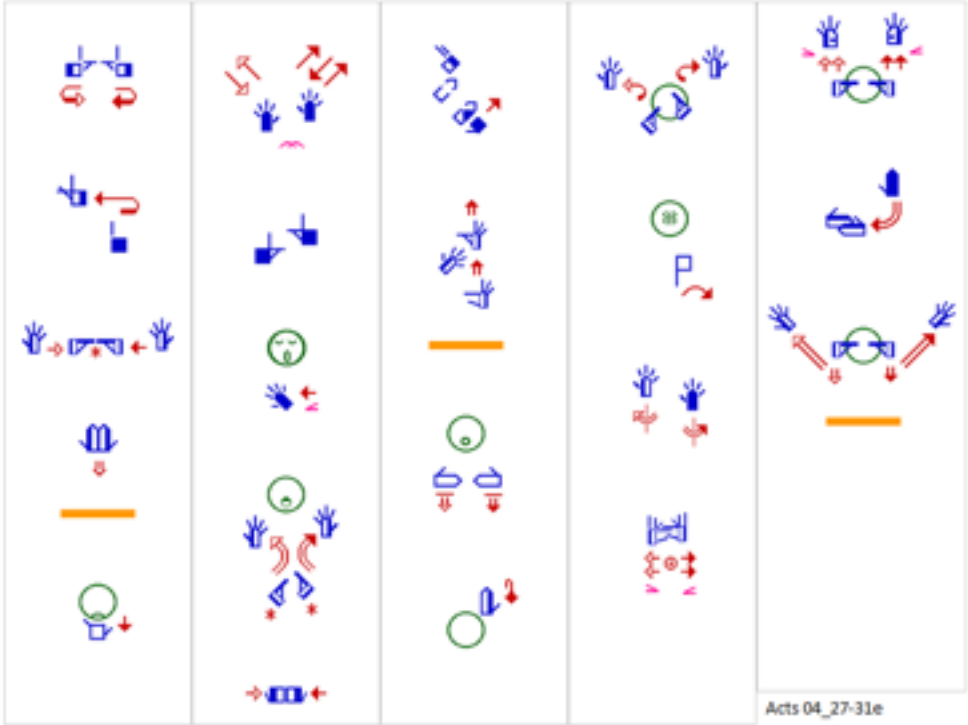
When is God's glory poured out? (**Exodus 49:34**) When the tabernacle, the church, is set up according to His plan. When the people are holy, when the people are intent on doing the will of God, then the glory of God will fill the (tabernacle) the people.

The early church assembled for one primary purpose: to learn what God wanted them to do, and then do it. After salvation, after baptism, after sanctification; this should be our prayer: **and grant unto thy servants, that with all boldness they may speak thy word,**

				<p>Acts 04_27-31a</p>
--	--	--	--	-----------------------

					<p>Acts 04_27-31b</p>
--	--	--	--	--	-----------------------





Acts 04\_27-31e