## SERMON OUTLINE

## James, Peter and God's Sovereignty Acts 12

- I. James is put to death by Herod (Acts 12:1-2)
  - A. Herod arrests believers (1)
    - <u>Spiritual Battle</u>: Persecution should be expected when the gospel is at stake.
  - B. Herod put James to death (2)
    - <u>Sovereignty</u>: God sovereignly decides who is rescued from persecution and who is not.
- II. Peter is rescued by an angel (Acts 12:3-17)
  - A. Herod arrests Peter intending to kill him, but the church prayed for him (3-5).
  - B. God's angel rescues Peter from jail (6-10).
  - C. The praying believers don't believe the report that Peter is free until they see him (11-17).
    <u>Answered Prayer</u>: We who believe God <u>can</u> do anything often don't expect that He <u>will</u> do anything.
- III. King Herod is judged by God (Acts 12:18-23)
  - A. Herod's murderous rage (18-19)
  - B. The pride of Herod (20-22)
  - C. The suffering and death of Herod (23).
    - <u>Judgment</u>: God judges his enemies sometimes sooner, but always later.

Open Door Bible Church 2-24-13