

THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

III THE ACTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH Acts 13-28

LESSON 20 - Paul's Arrest and Defense - Acts 21:1-22:29

KEY VERSE

For I [Paul] am ready not only to be bound, but also to die at Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus
(Acts 21:13b).

PONDER¹

READ Acts 21:1-22:29.

WRITE the *word, phrase, or verse* that spoke to you the most. Explain. _____

WARNINGS ON THE JOURNEY TO JERUSALEM

READ Acts 21:1-14.

1. Paul and Luke had just departed from Ephesus. What cities did he go through to reach Tyre² (vv. 1-3)?

3 4 5

2. Why did they stay in Tyre for seven days (v. 4)? _____

What warning, through the Spirit, did Paul receive? _____

3. When their visit was over, who accompanied them out of the city (vv. 5, 6)? _____

What did they do before they boarded the ship? _____

¹ PONDER: think about and consider carefully God's spiritual truths as revealed in the Word of God.

² Tyre: ancient Phoenician city on the Mediterranean coast.

³ Cos: island on the Mediterranean; famous for its wines, ornaments, purple dyes, fine textured silk and cotton.

⁴ Rhodes: large island on the Mediterranean; famous for its lighthouse, one of the Seven Wonders of the World.

⁵ Patara: southern coast of Asia Minor; a seaport of Lycia; famous for a magnificent temple dedicated to Apollo.

4. Who did they greet and stay one day with in Ptolemais⁶ (v. 7)? _____

5. Who did Paul and his companions stay with in Caesarea (vv. 8, 9)? _____

What was unique about his daughters? _____ ⁷

6. Who came to visit Paul while he was at Philip's house (vv. 10, 11)? _____ ⁸

How did he demonstrate a warning for Paul from the Holy Spirit? _____

LOOK DEEPER

DESCRIBE Phillip according to the following Scriptures.

Acts 8:5-8 _____

Acts 8:9-13 _____

Acts 8:26-40 _____

7. Those around that saw and heard the warning pleaded with Paul not to go up to Jerusalem. How did he respond to them (vv. 12-14)?

⁶ Ptolemais: a seaport in northern Palestine between Tyre and Caesarea.

⁷ prophesied: to foretell events, divine, speak under inspiration; exercise the prophetic office.

⁸ Agabus: a Christian prophet of Jerusalem; met Paul and Barnabas in Antioch (see Acts 11:28); shown by the Spirit of a famine that would spread throughout the world.

PERSONAL

EXPLAIN a time when you received instruction from the Holy Spirit. How did you respond? _____

PAUL URGED TO MAKE PEACE

READ Acts 21:15-26.

1. Who accompanied Paul and Luke to Jerusalem (vv. 15-17)? _____

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How did the brethren receive them? _____

2. What did Paul tell James¹⁰ and the elders (vv. 18, 19)? _____

3. Although they glorified God upon hearing Paul's news, what was their real concern (vv. 20, 21)?

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4. What did the elders tell Paul to do along with the four men (vv. 22-24)? Why? _____

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5. What had they written and decided about the Gentiles (v. 25)? _____

⁹ Mnason of Cyprus: one of the charter members of the Jerusalem church; few homes would be open to Paul and his companions.

¹⁰ James: the Lord's own brother, a pillar of the church in Jerusalem; the writer of the Epistle of James, the first of all of the New Testament epistles which had been in circulation for over a dozen years.

¹¹ zealous: active and unreserved enthusiasm or devotion.

¹² vow: the Nazarite vow. A vow taken by a person who chose to separate from certain worldly things and consecrate himself to God. Vows are not part of New Testament Christianity; Paul was a Jew who lived in a transitional time.

6. What did they do after they were purified¹³ (v. 26)? _____

LOOK DEEPER

What does the New Testament teach concerning spiritual cleansing?

John 15:3 _____

Ephesians 5:25-27 _____

Titus 3:3-7 _____

14

I John 1:5-10 _____

PAUL ARRESTED IN THE TEMPLE

READ Acts 21:27-36.

1. Who saw Paul in the temple? What actions did they take (vv. 27-29)? _____

15

What was their false accusation towards Paul? _____

¹³ purified: a symbolic ceremonial bathing or washing to make one pure before God and man; the Mosaic Law provided instructions for both physical and spiritual purification.

¹⁴ justified: declared clean; just as if we never sinned.

¹⁵ Trophimus the Ephesian: a Gentile Christian that accompanied Paul at the end of his journey.

2. How did the city respond (v. 30)? _____

3. As the crowd was seeking to kill Paul, what news came to the commander of the garrison? DESCRIBE verse by verse what happened to Paul (vv. 31-36).

What did the multitude cry? _____

LOOK DEEPER

What did the mob cry out when Christ Jesus was accused?

John 19:15 _____

Luke 23:18 _____

PAUL RELATES HIS CONVERSION

READ Acts 21:37-22:21.

1. Paul asked the commander for permission to speak. Who did he think Paul was (vv. 37-39)? _____

Who did Paul say that he was? _____

2. What happened when he gave Paul permission to address the crowd (vv. 40)? _____

3. To whom did Paul address his defense as he stood before the Jerusalem mob (Acts 22:1, 2)? _____

What language did he speak in? _____

How did they react? _____

4. What did Paul testify concerning:

his religious and biblical education (v. 3)? _____

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his religious zealotness (vv. 4, 5)? _____

his conversion to Christ (vv. 6-11)? _____

his meeting with Ananias (vv. 12-16)? _____

his divine command from the Lord (vv. 17-21)? _____

¹⁶ Gamaliel: doctor in the Law of God; Apostle Paul's teacher before his conversion.

PERSONAL

RELATE your testimony of conversion. _____

PAUL'S ROMAN CITIZENSHIP

READ Acts 22:22-29.

1. How did the mob react to Paul's speech (vv. 22, 23)? _____

2. What did the commander¹⁷ order to be done to Paul (v. 24)? _____

3. What did Paul reveal about himself as they bound him with thongs¹⁸ (vv. 25-27)? _____

What did the centurion¹⁹ tell the commander? _____

4. What was the difference between the commander's Roman citizenship and Paul's Roman citizenship (v. 28)?

5. How did Paul's accusers react (v. 29)? _____

¹⁷ commander: chief captain.

¹⁸ thongs: leather straps weighed with bits of iron bound to a handle; it could tear out lumps of flesh and cripple a man for life.

¹⁹ centurion: soldier in command of over one hundred men.

LOOK DEEPER
READ Hebrews 11.

Where is the believer's true citizenship? DESCRIBE the faith and pursuit of the true believer's homeland through the ages.

WRITE out the KEY VERSE. _____

*And they continued steadfastly
in the Apostles Doctrine and fellowship,
in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.*
Acts 2:42

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