

THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

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

LESSON 22 - Paul Before Felix the Roman Governor - Acts 24

KEY VERSE

But this I confess to you, that according to the Way which they call a sect, so I worship the God of my fathers, believing all things which are written in the Law and in the Prophets (Acts 24:14).

PONDER¹

READ Acts Chapter 24.

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

PAUL BEFORE FELIX²

Paul has been escorted by 470 Roman soldiers and left at the Antipatris Fortress between Jerusalem and Caesarea to be accused before Felix the governor of Judea.

READ Acts 24:1-9.

1. Who gave evidence to the governor against Paul (v. 1)? _____

³

2. How did Tertullus flatter Felix (vv. 2-4)? _____

3. What were Tertullus' charges against Paul (vv. 5-8)? _____

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

² FELIX: the Roman governor of Judea.

³ Tertullus: a professional orator hired to prosecute the Jew's case against the Apostle Paul.

4. How did the Jews respond (v. 9)? _____

LOOK DEEPER

What do these Scriptures declare about liars and false accusers?

John 8:44 - Jesus said: _____

Colossians 3:9 - Paul said: _____

I Timothy 4:1, 2 - Paul said: _____

Revelation 21:8 - John said: _____

Revelation 22:14, 15 - John said: _____

PERSONAL

How have you been affected by someone's lies or false accusations? Are you a habitual liar or false accuser?

⁴ sect of the Nazarenes: sect - Greek *heiresis*: heresy; this sect was a small faction of heretical teachers. Tertullus used this as a term of contempt for Christians. Jesus was raised in the despised town of Nazareth (see Matthew 2:23, John 1:46).

PAUL’S DEFENSE BEFORE FELIX

READ Acts 24:10-21.

1. The governor nodded for Paul to begin his defense. What truths did Paul tell about himself (vv. 10-13)?

2. What did Paul strongly confess and ascertain (vv. 14, 15)?

3. What did Paul strive for (v. 16)?

4. What did he state concerning his accusers (vv. 17-20)?

5. Truthfully, what was Paul being judged for (v. 21)?

PERSONAL

What does the resurrection of Christ mean to you?

What would you be judged for today?

LOOK DEEPER

What do the following Scriptures teach concerning the Resurrection of Christ?

John 11:25

Romans 6:4, 5

I Corinthians 15:3-8, 12-22 _____

Philippians 3: 10 _____

I Peter 1:3, 5 _____

PAUL'S CASE DEFERRED

READ Acts 24:22-26.

1. Why did Felix adjourn the proceedings against Paul (v. 22)? _____

2. What did Felix command the centurion concerning Paul (v. 23)? _____

A. Second Hearing before Felix

3. After some days, Felix sent for Paul. Who was Felix with (vv. 24)? _____

4. Felix and Drusilla heard Paul speak concerning the faith in Christ. What three specific points did Paul use to reason with them (v. 25)?

⁵ Drusilla: the youngest daughter of the governor, Herod Agrippa I. Felix's third wife, a Jew who married him in defiance of Jewish Law. Josephus wrote that Felix had taken her from her former husband, the king of Emesain, Syria. She was desired of all men for her great beauty.

What affect did Paul's message have on Felix? _____

4. Why did Felix continue to call on Paul (v. 26)? _____

5. After two years, just prior to Porcius Festus⁶ succeeding him, what final decision did Felix make regarding Paul (v. 27)?

LOOK DEEPER

How did Paul use his bonds?

Ephesians 4:1-4 _____

Ephesians 6:18-20 _____

Philippians 1:6, 7, 12-14 _____

Colossians 4:2, 3 _____

Colossians 4:18 _____

PERSONAL

Paul's imprisonments allowed him to carry the Gospel message to jailers, shipmates, kings, and to the emperor in Rome. How have you made use of your "times of imprisonment"?

⁶ Festus: a procurator of Judea; served two years and died in office; governor over a province.

Paul was the prisoner of the Lord Jesus Christ. Through his imprisonments, he wrote the *prison Epistles* to the entire world from generation to generation.

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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