

# THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

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

### LESSON 23 ~ Paul Before Festus and King Agrippa II ~ Acts 25 and 26

#### KEY VERSE

*Then Agrippa said to Paul, 'You almost persuade me to become a Christian.'* (Acts 26:28)

#### PONDER<sup>1</sup>

READ Acts Chapters 25 and 26.

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

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#### PAUL APPEALS TO CAESAR

Paul has been in prison in Caesarea<sup>2</sup> for two years.

READ Acts 25:1-12.

1. Wanting to do the Jews a favor, Felix, who was succeeded by Porcius Festus<sup>3</sup> as governor of Judea, left Paul in prison. Where did Festus go (v. 1)?

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2. Why did the High priest and the chief men petition Festus (vv. 2, 3)? \_\_\_\_\_

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3. How did Festus respond (vv. 4, 5)? \_\_\_\_\_

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4. What happened when Festus went to Caesarea (vv. 6, 7)? \_\_\_\_\_

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

<sup>2</sup> Caesarea: the Roman capital of Judea in the time of Christ and Paul; located by the sea, a port city thirty-two miles north of Joppa.

<sup>3</sup> Porcius Festus: Roman governor of Judea.

What did the Jewish leaders from Jerusalem do? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5. What was Paul's defense(v. 8)? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

6. Festus also wanted to do the Jews a favor. What question did he propose to Paul (v. 9)? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

7. As a Roman citizen Paul appealed to Caesar<sup>4</sup>, King Agrippa. As he continued his defense, what was his argument (vv. 10-12)?

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How did Festus conclude the matter? \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

### PAUL BEFORE KING AGRIPPA

READ Acts 25:13-27.

1. Who came to Caesarea after some days (v. 13)? \_\_\_\_\_ <sup>5</sup> <sup>6</sup>

\_\_\_\_\_

2. How did Festus present Paul's case (vv. 14-16)? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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3. As Festus sat in judgment, what accusations and questions against Paul were put forth by the Jews (vv. 17-19)?

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<sup>4</sup> Caesar: Emperor Nero of Rome.

<sup>5</sup> Agrippa: Herod Agrippa II, son of Herod Agrippa I and great-grandson of Herod the Great who killed the Bethlehem babies. He was appointed by the Roman Emperor Claudius as ruler of Abilene, part of Galilee, Iturea, and Trachonitis.

<sup>6</sup> Bernice: daughter of Herod Agrippa I, sister of Herod Agrippa II. According to the historian Josephus, she was first married to a man named Marcus and later to her uncle Herod, king of Chalcis, who soon afterward died. She later married Polemo, king of Cilicia, but deserted him shortly after their wedding. Then she made her way to Jerusalem, where she lived with Agrippa II.

4. Because Festus was uncertain of such questions, what did he ask of Paul (v. 20)? \_\_\_\_\_

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5. Who did Festus say Paul wanted to appeal his case to (v. 21)? \_\_\_\_\_<sup>7</sup>

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6. Who also wanted to hear from Paul (v. 22)? \_\_\_\_\_

7. What happened the next day (v. 23)? \_\_\_\_\_

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8. As Festus addressed King Agrippa and all the men that had assembled, he brought to their attention that the Jews had cried out Paul was not fit to live any longer. What did Festus' say about Paul (v. 25)?

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9. Why did Festus bring Paul to King Agrippa (vv. 26, 27)? \_\_\_\_\_

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### PAUL COMES BEFORE KING AGRIPPA

READ Acts 26:1-23.

1. King Agrippa permitted Paul to speak for himself. How did Paul begin his address (vv. 1, 2)? \_\_\_\_\_

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2. Why was Paul especially glad to come before King Agrippa (v. 3)? \_\_\_\_\_

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3. How did Paul describe his youth (vv. 4, 5)? \_\_\_\_\_

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<sup>7</sup> Augustus: the name Festus used for Caesar, it was a title not a proper name.

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4. For what was Paul being accused (vv. 6-8)? \_\_\_\_\_

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5. What did Paul continue to confess he had done (vv. 9-11)? \_\_\_\_\_

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### LOOK DEEPER

What do the following Scriptures say about the persecution of the saints?

John 16: 1-4 - Jesus said: \_\_\_\_\_

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I Corinthians 4:9-13 - Paul said: \_\_\_\_\_

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### PERSONAL

How have you been strengthened spiritually through persecution? \_\_\_\_\_

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6. Paul recounts his conversion on the road to Damascus. How did Jesus speak, exhort and direct Paul (Acts 26:12-18)?

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<sup>8</sup> hope of the promise: the promise of the coming of Jesus the Messiah, and the reestablishment of the kingdom of God.

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7. To whom did Paul, in obedience to his heavenly vision, preach repentance (vv. 19-21)? \_\_\_\_\_

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What did the Jews do to Paul? \_\_\_\_\_

8. From whom did Paul obtain help; for what purpose (vv. 22)? \_\_\_\_\_

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9. As he always boldly proclaimed, what was Paul's message (v. 23)? \_\_\_\_\_

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### LOOK DEEPER

READ Isaiah 53.

WRITE down the sacrifice Jesus made for your salvation. \_\_\_\_\_

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### PERSONAL

Prayerfully, REREAD Isaiah 53. Thank God for all He has done for you through His Son Jesus Christ.

### AGRIPPA PARRIES<sup>9</sup> PAUL'S CHALLENGE

READ Acts 26:24-32.

1. What happened as Paul made his defense to King Agrippa (v. 24)? \_\_\_\_\_

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<sup>9</sup> PARRIES: from *parry*, to evade a question by cleverly saying something that does not answer it.

2. How did Paul respond to this outcry against him (v. 25)? \_\_\_\_\_

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3. What does Paul say regarding King Agrippa (vv. 26-29)? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What rhetorical question does Paul ask the King? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

How did Agrippa elude Paul's uncomfortable question? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Paul's final reply? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. How did the King's interview of Paul end (vv. 30-32)? \_\_\_\_\_

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WRITE out the KEY VERSE. \_\_\_\_\_

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*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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