



Paul's Preaching

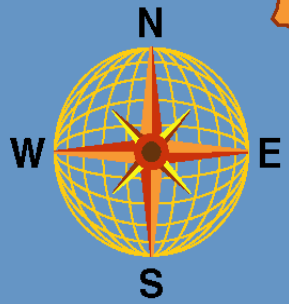
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Paul's Preaching

Acts 24



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Paul's Preaching

Acts 24

- When the Jewish leaders arrived in Caesarea, they were prepared. They brought Tertullus (a professional lawyer) with them (vs. 1).
- He told many lies about Paul.
- He charged Paul with being a troublemaker, pest, and trying to desecrate the temple (vss. 2-6).



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Acts 24

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Paul's Preaching

Acts 24

- He said that the Jews were being peaceful, but the Romans incited violence (vss. 7-8).
- The Jewish leaders were in full agreement with these bogus charges (vs. 9).
- These were serious charges. If convicted, Paul would be sentenced to death and executed quickly!



Paul's Defenses

Acts 24

- He didn't have enough time (vs. 11).
- The lack of evidence (vss. 12-13).
- He revealed the real reason why he was on trial (vss. 14-15).
- “In view of this, I also do my best to maintain always a blameless conscience both before God and before men.” (vs. 16)

Paul's Defenses

Acts 24

- Paul had come to Jerusalem to bring relief to the needy saints (vs. 17).
- Jews from Asia caused an uproar at the temple (vs. 18).
- These Jews needed to present sufficient evidence (vs. 19).
- Paul knew he was on trial because of the resurrection (vss. 20-21).





Paul's Defenses

Acts 24

- Felix “having a more exact knowledge about the Way,” decided to put off Paul’s accusers (vs. 22).
- He put Paul in custody, deprived of his freedom, but he still had the opportunity to preach the gospel.
- Felix knew some things about Christianity, but he wanted to know more.

Paul's Defenses

Acts 24

- He and his wife summoned Paul and heard him speak about “righteousness, self-control, and the judgment to come” (vss. 24-25).
- Felix became frightened and said, “Go away for the present, and when I find time I will summon you.”





Paul's Defenses

Acts 24

- It is very likely that Felix did not surrender his life to God because he kept Paul in prison for two more years (hoping that Paul would pay him a bribe).
- Felix would be succeeded by Festus in 60 A.D.



Paul's Defenses

Acts 25

- After the events of Acts 24, Paul is kept in prison for two more years (Acts 24:27).
- After becoming governor, Festus moved quickly to form a relationship with the Jewish leaders in Jerusalem.



Paul's Defenses

Acts 25

- The Jewish leaders urged Festus to bring Paul to Jerusalem for another trial (vss. 1-3).
- Festus refused. He planned on going to Caesarea to meet with Paul (vss. 4-5).
- Eight to ten days later Festus went down to Caesarea.



Paul's Defenses

Acts 25

- After Paul arrived, the Jews who had come down from Jerusalem stood around him, bringing many serious charges against him which they could not prove, **while Paul said in his own defense**, “I have committed no offense either against the Law of the Jews or against the temple or against Caesar.” (vss. 7-8)

Paul's Defenses

Acts 25

- Festus asked Paul would he be willing to go to Jerusalem (vs. 9).



Paul's Defenses

Acts 25

- Festus asked Paul would he be willing to go to Jerusalem (vs. 9).
- Paul refused. He reiterated his innocence and appealed his case to Caesar (vss. 10-11).



Paul's Defenses

Acts 25

- Festus would be visited by King Agrippa and Bernice (vs. 13).
- Agrippa was the grandson of Herod the great, and the son of Agrippa I.
- Festus told Agrippa about Paul's case. Since Agrippa was familiar with the Jewish customs, he asked to see Paul (vss. 14-22).



Paul's Defenses

Acts 25

- The following day Agrippa was given his wish (vs. 23).
- In verses 24-27, Festus explained to those present why the meeting was necessary.





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Paul's Defenses

Acts 26

- Paul felt fortunate to speak to Agrippa (vss. 1-3).
- He spoke of his background (vss. 4-5).



Paul's Defenses

Acts 26

- “And now I am standing trial for the **hope of the promise made by God to our fathers**; the promise to which our twelve tribes hope to attain, as they earnestly serve God night and day. And for this hope, O King, I am being accused by Jews.” (vss. 6-7)



Paul's Defenses

Acts 26

- “Why is it considered incredible among you people **if God does raise the dead?**” (vs. 8)



Paul's Defenses

Acts 26

- “So then, I thought to myself that I had to do **many things hostile** to the name of Jesus of Nazareth.” (vs. 9)





Paul's Defenses

Acts 26

- Paul spoke of his Damascus experience (vss. 12-15).
- The Lord appeared to appoint him a minister to the Gentiles (vss. 16-23).
- Felix called him crazy! (vs. 24)

Paul's Defenses

Acts 26

- But Paul said, “I am not out of my mind, most excellent Festus, but I utter words of sober truth. For the king knows about these matters, and I speak to him also with confidence, since I am persuaded that none of these things escape his notice; for this has not been done in a corner.” (vss. 25-26)





Paul's Defenses

Acts 26

- “King Agrippa, do you believe the Prophets? I know that you do.”
Agrippa replied to Paul, **“In a short time you will persuade me to become a Christian.”** (vss. 27-28)

Paul's Defenses

Acts 26

- And Paul said, “I would wish to God, that whether in a short or long time, not only you, but also all who hear me this day, might become such as I am, except for these chains.” (vs. 29)





Paul's Defenses

Acts 26

- “This man is not doing anything worthy of death or imprisonment.” And Agrippa said to Festus, **“This man might have been set free if he had not appealed to Caesar.”** (vss. 31-32)

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