

Q: People grow passionate when something challenges their deeply held beliefs, whether its politics, traditions or religious beliefs. How difficult would it be for the Jews here to hear (from Paul) God's Truth about Jesus as their promised Messiah, but have to change their deeply held (but incorrect) beliefs?

Q: How did Paul try to establish common ground with them?

Q: Paul shares his dramatic conversion to Christ (see Acts 9). What did he emphasize as the purpose of his conversion? (see vv.14-15, 21)

Q: What factors in your conversion to Christ experience could you share with others, to emphasize the reality of your faith in Christ?

Q: (v.22-29) What happened next to Paul, and again, how did Paul use his rights as a Roman citizen to his advantage?

PRAY: Lord help me listen and obey your voice to go where you send me and say and do what you want me to, for Your glory. Build your confidence in me and help me be faithful to those people you place in my life each day, to boldly point them to Jesus! Amen!



Harvest Growing Deeper

*A Disciplemaking Tool of Harvest Evangelical Free Church
(for personal and/or small group study)*

Week of November 1, 2020

Acts 21-22

As Paul wrapped up his 3rd missionary journey, He was resolute in heading to Jerusalem, led by the Holy Spirit. His ministry partners didn't want him to go, knowing persecution awaited him. Most Jews rejected Jesus and many pagans around the world were upset that Christianity was affecting their idol worship and way of life. But the gospel of Jesus Christ and His Kingdom was multiplying!

Q: What conflicts have you experienced in life, simply for following Jesus?

Q: (21:4) How did the disciples interpret the Holy Spirit's warning that persecution awaited Paul in Jerusalem?

Q: Why was Paul so resolute in going there anyway? (see 20:22-24; 21:13-14; 23:11)

Q: Who was Philip (see Acts 6:1-6; 8:4-8; 26-40) and how were his daughters involved in ministry? (21:8-9)

Q: (21:17-20) How was Paul and the Gentile believers received by the Jerusalem church elders? How did the elders respond to the testimony of God's work?

Q: Despite receiving the Gentile believers well, what requirements did the Jerusalem church give for them, while in Jerusalem?

Q: Humbly, Paul complied with this request. He could have said these Jewish traditions are no longer necessary because they were all fulfilled in Christ. Why then would he go through with this? (see 1 Cor 9:19-23).

Q: (vv.27-31) How did Paul's actions get him into trouble with the Jews who opposed him? What did the crowd try to do?

Q: How quickly do rumors spread! How have you been the victim of an untrue rumor (or help spread one of someone else)?

Q: (vv. 31-36) Ironically, how was Paul rescued?

Q: (vv.37-40) Describe how Paul disarms the angry crowd.

Q: How does Paul use his Roman citizenship to his advantage here? How can American Christians use our rights (in a humble, prudent, respectful way) to continue to promote the gospel in every sphere of life?

Q: Why was it critical that Paul addressed the Jewish mob in their native Hebrew (or some say in Aramaic) language? (How might this also relate to the importance of having God's Word translated into the native languages of people around the world?)

Q: In this chapter, Paul moves from the warm reception and Christian fellowship to becoming the target of murderous hostility of his opponents in Jerusalem. His motive was obedience to Christ and the Holy Spirit's leading. How loyal to Jesus are you? What price would you be willing to pay to follow and obey Christ?
