

PERSONAL TESTIMONY TO THE MOB

Paul's First Defense in Chains

July 19, 2015

Acts 21:37-22:29

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Outline:

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| 1) The Witness to Jerusalem | Acts 1:1-8:3 | |
| 2) The Witness to Judea and Samaria | Acts 8:4-12:24 | |
| 3) The Witness to the Ends of the Earth | Acts 12:25-21:14 | |
| 4) From Jerusalem to Rome | Acts 21:15-28:31 | |
| Mob Defense | Jerusalem | Acts 21:27 |
| Sanhedrin Defense | Jerusalem | Acts 22:30 |
| Felix Defense | Caesarea | Acts 24:1 |
| Festus Defense | Caesarea | Acts 25:1 |
| Agrippa Defense | Caesarea | Acts 25:13 |
| Jew Defense | Rome | Acts 28:17 |

Key Verse: Acts 22:14 And he said, "The God of our fathers has appointed you to know His will and to see the Righteous One and to hear an utterance from His mouth."

Theme: God convicts a person of their sin, leads them to repentance, chooses them for salvation and calls them to good works.

I. Life Prior to Christ 21:27-22:5

Paul emphasized his attributes he shared with his audience

1. A Jew, born in Tarsus and raised in Jerusalem
2. Highly educated in the Law by the preminent teacher
3. Dedicated service to God publicly displayed in persecuting Christians

II. Salvation in Christ 22:6-16

Paul emphasizes God's work in salvation. Paul was helpless as Jesus displayed His supernatural power.

1. Jesus reveals to Paul that he is persecuting Him by persecuting Christians
2. Paul was informed that God had appointed him for salvation.
3. Paul was called to be a witness of Jesus Christ to all men.
4. Paul was instructed to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

III. Life After Christ

22:17-21

**Paul emphasizes his obedience to the instructions he is given by the Lord
While praying in the temple Paul was told to**

- 1. Leave Jerusalem immediately**
- 2. Your testimony of Jesus Christ will not be believed in Jerusalem**
- 3. Go far from Jerusalem and share My gospel with Gentiles**

IV. Response to the Gospel

22:22-29

- 1. The mob called for Paul's execution for his implication that the Gentiles were equal to the Jews in God's plan of salvation.**
- 2. The commander responded in frustration at his inability to discover the crime committed by Paul**
- 3. Paul appeals to Roman justice to avoid a tortuous interrogation.**

V. Application

- 1. God was in control of the circumstances that result in our persecution.**
- 2. Our difficulties create opportunities to testify of the gospel of Jesus Christ**
- 3.**
- 4. Be willing to open a conversation with a stranger, regardless of status.
1 Peter 3:15**
- 5. Be able to use Scripture appropriately, making it the authority for eternal life.
2 Timothy 3:14-17 .**
- 6. Be trusting the Holy Spirit to accomplish the will of God in saving sinners.
Titus 3:5-6 1 Thessalonians 1:5-7**