

A PURPOSE FOR A PREACHER IN PRISON

Introduction: Paul was given a purpose from the Lord when he was a prisoner in Caesarea; he was to be His witness to three government officials: Felix, Festus and Agrippa.

Lesson Aim: Be a faithful witness for the Lord to all sinners whether you are free or in bonds.

Memory Verse: "Having therefore obtained help of God, I continue unto this day, witnessing both to small and great, saying none other things than those which the prophets and Moses did say should come." (Acts 26:22).

Outline of the Lesson and Questions to Answer

I. Paul's Defense before Felix — 24:1-27

1. Paul was charged with three offences: temple desecration; civil unfaithfulness; religious heresy, but not in that order. Give the correct order and give some key words that were used in each charge. 24:5-6

First charge:

Second charge:

Third charge:

2. How did Paul answer the first charge? 24:11-13. It had only been ____ days that he went up to the temple to _____ and he was not _____ with anyone. The Jews cannot _____ their charges.

3. How did Paul answer the second charge? 24:14-16. He worshipped the God of his _____ after the ____ that they call _____; he _____ the whole Old Testament; his hope was in the _____ along with the Jews; and he had a _____ without offense toward _____ and _____.

4. How did Paul answer the third charge: 24:17-18? After many years he brought _____ to his nation and _____. Some Jews from Asia found him _____ in the temple, not with a mob or _____.

5. What did Felix do to Paul after his trial? 24:23

6. What did Felix do when Paul witnessed to him? 24:25

7. Why did Felix keep Paul in prison and not set him free? 24:26

II. Paul's Defense before Festus — 25:1-12

8. Why did the religious leaders of the Jews want Paul to be tried in Jerusalem? 25:2-3

9. What did Paul do when Festus wanted him to be tried in Jerusalem? 25:9-11

10. What did Festus do with Paul's appeal? 25:12

III. Paul's Defense before Agrippa - 25:13 - 26:32

11. How was Paul able to witness to King Agrippa? 25:13-22

12. Why did Festus want Paul to be examined by King Agrippa? 25:25-27

13. When Paul witnessed to King Agrippa, he told him of the hope of God's promise that he believed as a Pharisee. What was that hope? 26:6-8

14. What did Paul do to those that believed God raised Jesus from the dead? 26:9-11

15. When did Paul realize that God had raised Jesus from the dead? 26:12-15

16. What was Christ's commission for Paul among the Gentiles? 26:18

17. How did Festus respond to Paul's witness? 26:24

18. How did Agrippa respond to Paul's witness? 26:26-30

19. How did Agrippa judge Paul? 26:31-32