

Paul: A Preacher in Bonds

Introduction: Paul's feared imprisonment now becomes a _____. Though in Roman custody, Paul will be as _____ and fearless as before in preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ to those he comes in contact with (1 Cor. 9:16; Phil. 1:21).

- I. Paul's _____ (Acts 22:1-21)
- A. Paul was given a golden _____ to share his testimony with the Jews.
 - B. It does us well to remember what we were _____ coming to Christ.
 - C. Paul was well _____.
 - D. He could _____ with his audience because he was in their shoes.
 - E. Christianity is not something Paul was looking for, but rather he was _____ it altogether.
 - F. Paul did not find Christ; _____ found Paul.
 - G. His part in the martyrdom of Stephen weighed heavily on Paul's _____.
 - H. It was God's plan for salvation to go to the Gentiles through the _____ of Paul.
- II. Israel's _____ (Acts 22:22-23)
- A. The Jews _____ Paul's personal testimony until he mentioned salvation going to the Gentiles.
 - B. They felt that he was _____ and no longer fit to live.
- III. Paul's _____ (Acts 22:24-23:35)
- A. The Romans acted hastily and had Paul whipped before they knew _____ about him.
 - B. They brought him before the Sanhedrin—a court to try _____ cases.
 - C. Paul was treated the same way _____ was treated about 20 years earlier.
 - D. "The _____ is not above his master, nor the servant above his lord" (Matt. 10:24).
 - E. Being human, Paul reacted out of _____, but recognized his error.
 - F. Knowing his audience, he _____ the room by bringing up the controversial subject of the resurrection.
 - G. Under Roman custody, Paul was taken to a place of _____.
 - H. Paul was in the _____ of God's will even as a prisoner.
 - I. Some Jews were simply _____ to kill Paul and would not rest until they succeeded in doing so.
 - J. Again, God intercedes and brings Paul out of _____.
 - K. There is no safer place than being in the center of God's _____ --no harm can come to you unless God allows it.
 - L. It was decided that Paul would be brought before governor _____.
 - M. Felix will be the first of the Roman authorities to hear the _____.

Conclusion: "Paul is now a prisoner, and we will follow his life as a prisoner. From this point on we find Paul giving a defense of himself and his ministry. He will appear before several rulers" (McGee).