

Lesson Eighteen: Prisoner in Caesarea

A plot thwarted (*read verses 23:12-35*)

- 1) Consider the lengths to which the Jewish fanatics were willing to go to silence Paul (23:12-15). What human and divine factors prevented them (23:16-30)?

Trial before Felix (*read verses 24:1-27*)

- 2) How did Paul refute each of Tertullus's charges against him?
 - a) making trouble, inciting dissension (24:11-13, 17-18)
 - b) leading a new and unlawful sect (24:14-16)
 - c) desecrating the temple (24:11-13, 17-21)
- 3) Why is it important that Paul claimed Christianity was not something new, but the true continuation of faith recorded in the Law and the Prophets?
- 4) How did his expectation of resurrection and possible judgement affect Paul (24:15-16)? How did this idea affect Felix (24:25)? Why do you think the prospect of judgement affected these men so differently?

Festus (*read verses 25:1-12*)

- 5) Lysias, Felix, and Festus all knew that Paul had broken no Roman laws. Why didn't they free him?

Agrippa (*read verses 25:13 – 26:32*)

- 6) What did Paul think was the issue for which he was being held prisoner (26:6-8)?
- 7) Summarize the gist of what Paul said to Agrippa (26:2-23).
- 8) Agrippa could do nothing to free Paul since he had appealed to Caesar. Why did Paul give this speech (see 26:29)?

