



**NOON DAY BIBLE STUDY LESSON**

**STUDENT EDITION**

**Acts of the Apostles**

**NOON DAY Bible Study  
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## Lesson 23 Chapter 23-26

### I. General Outline of Chapter 23-26

- A. Paul Appears before the Sanhedrin (Acts 22:30-23:10)
- B. Paul Experiences a Plot to Kill Him (Acts 23:11-22)
- C. Paul is Sent to Caesarea for Trial (Acts 23:23-35)
- D. Paul Appears before Felix (Acts 24:1-21)
- E. Felix Postpones a Decision (Acts 24:22-27)
- F. Paul Appeals to Rome (Acts 25:1-12)
- G. Paul Appears before Agrippa (Acts 25:13-26:32)

### II. Paul Appears before the Sanhedrin (Acts 22:30-23:10)

- A. The meeting of the Sanhedrin was filled with \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 23:1-10).
- B. The various occurrences in this chapter of Paul's life highlight the \_\_\_\_\_ in both religion and politics.
  - 1. There was corruption in the \_\_\_\_\_.
    - a. Paul was \_\_\_\_\_ when he was answering questions (Acts 23:2).
    - b. Witnesses were \_\_\_\_\_ to give false testimony (Acts 24:5-6).
    - c. Party \_\_\_\_\_ was more important than justice (Acts 23:9).
    - d. There was a lack of concern for the actual \_\_\_\_\_.
    - e. They were willing to conspire with \_\_\_\_\_ to kill Paul (Acts 23:12-16).
  - 2. There was corruption in the Roman \_\_\_\_\_.
    - a. They were open to \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 22:28).
    - b. They used power for \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 24:26).
    - c. They preferred political \_\_\_\_\_ over justice (Acts 24:27).
- C. Paul used the corruption to his \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 1. With the Sanhedrin he played to their \_\_\_\_\_ to accomplish his purpose (Acts 23 6-10).

2. With the Romans he used his \_\_\_\_\_ to accomplish his purpose (Acts 25:11).

### **III. Paul Experiences a Plot to Kill Him (Acts 23:11-22)**

- A. Forty religious zealots hatched a plot to \_\_\_\_\_.
  1. They swore themselves to an \_\_\_\_\_ not to eat or drink until they had killed Paul (Acts 23:12-13).
  2. They entered into \_\_\_\_\_ with the religious leaders to participate in the plot against Paul (Acts 23:14-15).
- B. God encouraged and \_\_\_\_\_ Paul through difficult times.
  1. God encouraged Paul that his ministry would go forward \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 23:11).
  2. God moved upon Paul's nephew to \_\_\_\_\_ to Paul and then to the Roman commander (Acts 23:16-22).

### **IV. Paul is Sent to Caesarea for Trial (Acts 23:23-35)**

- A. The Roman commander (Claudius Lysias) decided to \_\_\_\_\_ Paul out to Caesarea to receive a fair trial.
- B. The Roman commander wrote a letter to Felix the governor of Caesarea \_\_\_\_\_ the situation (Acts 23:25-30).
- C. Paul received a major \_\_\_\_\_ to Caesarea for a better hearing (Acts 23:23, 31-32).
- D. The \_\_\_\_\_ was delivered to Felix (Acts 23:33).
- E. Felix agreed to \_\_\_\_\_ and hold Paul until his accusers arrive (Acts 23:34-35).

### **V. Paul Appears before Felix (Acts 24:1-21)**

- A. After five days the Jewish accusers arrived in Caesarea with their \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 24:1).
- B. Tertullus presented the case against Paul before \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 24:1-9)

1. He definitely tried to persuade the court with \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 24:2-4).
  2. He placed Paul in a very \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 24:5).
    - a. He referred to him as a \_\_\_\_\_.
    - b. He referred to him as a creator of \_\_\_\_\_.
    - c. He referred to him as a \_\_\_\_\_ of the sect of the Nazarenes.
  3. He presented twisted and \_\_\_\_\_ against Paul (Acts 24:6-9).
- C. Paul was given an opportunity to give a \_\_\_\_\_ to the charges (Acts 24:10-21).
1. Paul said he was not...
    - Disputing with anyone in the temple.
    - Inciting the crowd.
    - Profaning the temple.
    - With a multitude or a tumult.
  2. Paul said he was in Jerusalem...
    - To worship.
    - To bring alms.
    - To bring an offering for the nation.
    - To be purified in the temple.
  3. Paul indicated that they may have been offended because...
    - He belonged to a sect called “the Way.”
    - He had said something about the resurrection of the dead.
  4. Paul challenged anyone who had actually witnessed bad behavior on his part to come and \_\_\_\_\_ him (Acts 24:19-20).

**VI. Felix Postpones a Decision (Acts 24:22-27)**

- A. Felix decided not to \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 24:22).
- B. He kept Paul in a \_\_\_\_\_ security situation with liberties (Acts 24:23).
- C. Felix wanted \_\_\_\_\_ what Paul believed.

D. Felix knew Paul was \_\_\_\_\_ but wanted a bribe (Acts 24:26).

E. Felix was succeeded by \_\_\_\_\_ after two years (Acts. 24:27).

## VII. Paul Appeals to Rome (Acts 25:1-12)

A. With the change in leadership to Festus, the Jews seized the \_\_\_\_\_ to come against Paul once again.

1. They made an appeal through a \_\_\_\_\_ to have Paul returned to Jerusalem for trial (Acts 25:2-3).

2. They planned another \_\_\_\_\_ to kill Paul in route to Jerusalem (Acts 25:3).

B. Festus convened a court to listen to the Jews' \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 23:4-7).

C. Festus was inclined to do the Jews a favor and return Paul to \_\_\_\_\_ for trial (Acts 25:9).

D. Paul appealed \_\_\_\_\_ to escape being exported back to Jerusalem (Acts 25:10-12).

## VIII. Paul Appears before Agrippa (Acts 25:13-26:32)

A. King Agrippa and his wife Bernice came to Caesarea and ended up getting involved in Paul's case at the \_\_\_\_\_ of Festus (Acts 25:13-14).

B. Festus \_\_\_\_\_ Agrippa on the case (Acts 25:15-21).

C. Festus indicated that the only charges that the Jews brought against Paul had to do with some \_\_\_\_\_ questions (Acts 25:18-19).

D. Agrippa decided that he wanted to hear Paul \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 25:22).

E. Festus also wanted Agrippa to hear Paul because if he was going to send Paul to Rome he needed to know what \_\_\_\_\_ him with (Acts 25:24-27).

F. Paul \_\_\_\_\_ before Agrippa (Acts 26:1-23).

1. He summarized his early life (Acts 26:1-11).

2. He recounted his conversion experience (Acts 26:12-18).

3. He described his ministry of preaching Christ to both Jews and Gentiles (Acts 26:19-23).

G. Paul experienced a two-fold result.

1. Festus thought that he had \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 26:24).

2. Agrippa was \_\_\_\_\_ to be a Christian (Acts 26:28).

H. Agrippa rendered a \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 26:29-32).

1. Paul had done nothing worthy of chains.

2. Had Paul not appealed to Caesar he might have been set free.



## Lesson 24

### Chapter 27-28

#### I. General Outline of Chapter 27-28

- A. Paul's Voyage to Rome Begins (Acts 27:1-8)
- B. Paul Warns of Impending Danger (Acts 27:9-12)
- C. Paul Goes through the Storm (Acts 27:13-38)
- D. Paul Shipwrecked on Malta (Acts 27:39-44)
- E. Paul Ministers on Malta (Acts 28:1-10)
- F. Paul Arrives in Rome (Acts 28:11-16)
- G. Paul Ministers in Rome (Acts 28:17-31)

#### II. Paul's Voyage to Rome Begins (Acts 27:1-8)

- A. Paul was placed on a ship with \_\_\_\_\_ under the charge of a centurion named Julius (Acts 27:1).
- B. Paul was given a certain amount of \_\_\_\_\_ on the ship (Acts 27:2-3).
- C. The ship sailed through some \_\_\_\_\_ and eventually came to Myra in Lycia (See map).
- D. In Myra Paul was placed on an Alexandrian ship for the \_\_\_\_\_ of the journey (Acts 27:6).
- E. After many days of difficult sailing they arrived at a port called \_\_\_\_\_ on the island of Crete (Acts 27:7-8).

#### III. Paul Warns of Impending Danger (Acts 27:9-12)

- A. Paul advised those who operated the ship that it would be \_\_\_\_\_ to try to proceed to Rome at this time of the year.
- B. The ship owner and captain of the ship persuaded the centurion to \_\_\_\_\_ hoping to winter in Phoenix.

#### IV. Paul Goes through the Storm (Acts 27:13-38)

- A. Soon after they left Fair Havens a \_\_\_\_\_ arose and blew them off



course (Acts 27:13-18).

- B. After three days in the storm they decided to take drastic measures to \_\_\_\_\_ the load and secure the ship (Acts 27:19-21).
- C. Paul comforted the crew by sharing his \_\_\_\_\_ with them (Acts 27:22-26).
- D. After the fourteenth day the ship entered into shallow waters with the potential of running \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 27:27-30).
  - 1. In order to save the ship from \_\_\_\_\_ the crew dropped four anchors.
  - 2. In order to save themselves they lowered the skiff and were planning on \_\_\_\_\_ and the prisoners.
- E. At this point, the prisoner Paul stepped into the situation and \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 27:31-36).
  - 1. He told the men not to leave the ship or they would \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 27:31-32).
  - 2. He urged them \_\_\_\_\_ so that they would be strong for survival.
  - 3. He blessed and \_\_\_\_\_ with them to see to it that they did eat.
- F. After eating, the crew further lightened the load by throwing the rest of \_\_\_\_\_ overboard (Acts 27:38).

**V. Paul Shipwrecked on Malta (Acts 27:39-44)**

- A. When it was day, the crew saw a bay with \_\_\_\_\_ that would be well suited for grounding the ship (Acts 27:39).
- B. They lifted the anchors, loosed the rudder, hoisted the sail and made way for the \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 27:40).
- C. When they ran the ship aground on a sand bar in the bay, the soldiers' plan was to \_\_\_\_\_ so that none would escape (Acts 27:41-42).
- D. By this time the centurion was so \_\_\_\_\_ that he did not allow the soldiers to kill the prisoners so that Paul would be spared (Acts 27:43).
- E. Eventually the entire \_\_\_\_\_ made it safely to the shore (Acts 27:44).

## VI. Paul Ministers on Malta (Acts 28:1-10)

- A. After reaching land they realized that the island they had come to was \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 28:1).
- B. The refugees from the ship were \_\_\_\_\_ by the native population of Malta (Acts 28:2).
- C. As they were building a fire to keep warm, Paul was bitten by a \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 28:3-6).
- D. Paul seized the opportunity \_\_\_\_\_ the Gospel (Acts 28:7-10).

## VII. Paul Arrives in Rome (Acts 28:11-16)

Paul continued on to Rome as more of a \_\_\_\_\_ and a conqueror than a prisoner.

- A. They travelled according to Paul's desired \_\_\_\_\_ visiting his friends along the way (Acts 28:14).
- B. Believers who were aware of Paul's coming came out to \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 28:15).



The above map covers Paul's journey to Rome or Fourth Missionary Journey covered in Acts 23-28.

C. Paul was put into a \_\_\_\_\_ security situation in Rome.

1. Rome had \_\_\_\_\_ main types of custody.

a. They put criminals into the \_\_\_\_\_.

This was the most severe kind of detention. Most of the jail houses in the empire were dungeons of the worst kind. Prisoners were often kept in chains or even bound in positions of torture. They were usually very damp, very dark and very unclean.

b. They put low risk criminals into \_\_\_\_\_.

This was a detention that was extended to non-violent prisoners who were deemed low risk. Here the accused was placed in the custody of a soldier who was responsible with his own life for the safe keeping of his prisoner.

c. They allowed certain criminals what was termed “\_\_\_\_\_”.

This detention was more like a prisoner out on bail and was usually reserved for high ranking officials and political prisoners. Here the accused party was committed to the charge of a magistrate or senator who was responsible for his appearance on the day of trial.

2. Paul was in \_\_\_\_\_ custody.

a. He was \_\_\_\_\_ to a soldier (Acts 28:16; Eph. 6:20; Phil. 1:7, 13-14; Col. 4:3, 18; Phm. 1:10, 13).

b. He lived in his own \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 28:30).

c. He was able to \_\_\_\_\_ in this house (Acts 28:30).

d. He was not able to work and \_\_\_\_\_ from his friends.

### VIII. Paul Ministers in Rome (Acts 28:17-31)

Paul did not dwell on what he could \_\_\_\_\_; he focused on what he could \_\_\_\_\_.

A. He saw himself as an “\_\_\_\_\_” (Eph. 6:20).

Paul knew how to turn obstacles into opportunities.



1. In the Philippian jail he ministered in the prison.
2. After his arrest in Jerusalem he preached to the mob.
3. When he was under arrest in Caesarea he witnessed to governors.
4. When he was on the slave ship he ministered to the crew.
5. When he was on Malta he ministered to the islanders.
6. Now that he was in Rome he continued his ministry from his hired house.

Paul never once referred to himself as a prisoner of Rome; he was a prisoner of the Lord or a prisoner of \_\_\_\_\_ (Eph. 3:1).

- B. He went to the \_\_\_\_\_ even in Rome (Acts 28:17-29).

He had the same results that he always had.

1. Some believed what he said (Acts 28:24).
2. Some did not believe (Acts 28:25, 29).
3. When rejected by the Jews, Paul changed his focus to the Gentiles (Acts 28:28).

- C. He received people and \_\_\_\_\_ them (Acts 28:30).

Paul had many visitors while he was in Rome. Some of his visitors included:

1. Timothy (Phil. 1:1; 2:19-23; Col. 1:1; Phm. 1:1)

Timothy was not only Paul's son in the faith and disciple, he was a personal assistant and agent to function in Paul's behalf in relation to the churches. He also helped Paul in the writing of most of his letters from prison.

2. Epaphras (Col. 1:3-8; 4:12-13; Phm. 1:23)

Epaphras was an apostolic ministry in relation to the church at Colossae. He had come to Paul both to encourage him and to get his advice and help in sorting out some of the problems in the Colossian church. He spent enough time with Paul for Paul to have referred to him as a "fellow prisoner."

3. Onesimus

Onesimus was a runaway slave that Paul led to the Lord and then discipled. In the process he assisted him in the process of restitution with his master Philemon. The book of Philemon is the letter that Paul wrote when he sent Onesimus back to his master.

4. Tychicus (Acts 20:2; Eph. 6:21; II Tim. 4:12; Tit. 3:12)

Tychicus was one of Paul's disciples who delivered Paul's prison epistles to the various churches (Eph. 6:21). He may have even read them to the congregations in behalf of Paul. He had accompanied Paul on his last trip to Jerusalem.

5. Marcus, Aristarchus, Demas, Luke, Justus (Col. 4:10-11, 14; Phm. 1:24)

The Marcus in this list is most likely John Mark. Many of these individuals were life-long friends. Some of them stayed with him for extended periods of time during his imprisonment.

6. Epaphroditus (Phil. 2:25-30; 4:18-22)

Epaphroditus brought the offering from the Philippians church that had been raised in Paul's behalf (Phil. 2:25-30; 4:18-22). He also served Paul tirelessly for a season in practical ways.

- D. He led Onesimus \_\_\_\_\_ and disciplined him (Philemon).  
E. He \_\_\_\_\_ to the soldiers (Phil. 1:13).  
F. He made inroads into Caesar's \_\_\_\_\_ (Phil. 1:13; 4:22).  
G. He wrote \_\_\_\_\_ to churches including Ephesus, Philippi and Colossae.

**IX. What do we know about Paul after the Book of Acts closes?**

- A. Paul was eventually \_\_\_\_\_ without ever going to trial.  
B. Paul may have gone to \_\_\_\_\_ or other regions (Rom. 15:24).  
C. Paul wrote I Timothy, Titus and possibly \_\_\_\_\_ during his release period.  
D. Paul returned to Rome where he was arrested along with \_\_\_\_\_ under the reign of Nero.  
E. Paul was placed in a \_\_\_\_\_.  
F. Paul wrote II Timothy from prison knowing that he was about \_\_\_\_\_ (II Tim. 4:6-8).  
G. Paul was \_\_\_\_\_ by the Romans.