



Paul, His Life and Teachings

Paul Before Governor Felix

Lesson 26

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*How lovely is your dwelling place, Oh Lord
of Hosts!*

*My soul longs, yes, faints for the courts of
the Lord;
my heart and flesh sing for joy to the living
God.*

*Even the sparrow finds a home, and the
swallow a nest for herself, where she may
lay her young,
at your altars, O Lord of Hosts, my King and
my God.*

*Blessed are those who dwell in your house,
ever singing your praise!*

*Blessed are those whose strength is in you,
in whose heart are the highway to Zion.*

*As they go through the Valley of Baca they
make it a place of springs;*

the early rain also covers it with pools.

*They go from strength to strength; each
one appears before Zion.*

*Lord God of Hosts, hear my prayer; give
ear, O God of Jacob!*

*Behold our shield, O God; look on the face
of your anointed!*

*For a day in your courts is better than a
thousand elsewhere.*

*I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house
of my God than dwell in the tents of
wickedness.*

*For the Lord God is a sun and shield; the
Lord bestows favor and honor.*

*No good thing does he withhold from those
who walk uprightly.*

*O Lord of Hosts, blessed is the one who
trusts in you!*



How lovely is your dwelling place



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How lovely is
your dwelling
place



My soul longs
for the courts
of the Lord



Better is one
day here than a
thousand
elsewhere.

That night in the Roman barracks, God
comes to Paul



That night in the Roman barracks, God comes to Paul



“The Lord stood by him and said, ‘Take courage, for as you have testified to the facts about me in Jerusalem, so you must testify also in Rome.’”

While Paul slept, over 40 men vowed to kill
him



Watch out for evil doers wearing
cloaks of piety and devotion



Paul's nephew
alerts him



Paul's nephew
alerts him



The Tribune sends Paul under guard to Caesarea



The centurion gives the letter to Governor Felix





I will give you a hearing, Paul, but you will have to wait...

Gov. Felix Curriculum Vitae

Personal:

- “Felix” is Latin for cheerfulness
- Married to 3 women including the granddaughter of Antony and Cleopatra
- 3d wife a teenage Jewess named Drusilla
- A freedman in power thanks to his brother



Gov. Felix Curriculum Vitae

References:

- Tacitus – “Antonius Felix, practiced every kind of cruelty and lust, wielding the power of a king with all the instincts of a slave”
- Josephus – Felix was the cause of much bitterness and quick to use force against the Jewish people



5 days later, Felix calls the hearing to order
- Lawyer Tertullus starts for the Jews



First the schmoozing ...

“Since *through you* we enjoy much peace, and since *by your foresight, most excellent Felix,* reforms are made for this nation, in everyway and everywhere we accept this with all gratitude.”



Then the charges...

1. Paul is a troublemaker!
2. Paul is a ringleader in a fringe religious group.
3. Paul is a temple desecrator.





Okay, Paul. It is your turn. What is your defense?

No schmoozing, just a clever pun



“Knowing that for many years you have been a judge over this nation, I *cheerfully* make my defense.”

As to the charges...



1. Paul is a troublemaker!
2. Paul is a ringleader in a fringe religious group.
3. Paul is a temple desecrator.

As to the charges...



1. Paul is a troublemaker!
2. Paul is a ringleader in a fringe religious group.
3. Paul is a temple desecrator.

If I am charged with being a worldwide trouble maker, where are the eye witnesses?

As to the charges...



- ✖ 1. Paul is a troublemaker!
- 2. Paul is a ringleader in a fringe religious group.
- 3. Paul is a temple desecrator.

If I am charged with being a worldwide trouble maker, where are the eye witnesses?

As to the charges...



- ✖ Paul is a troublemaker!
- 2. Paul is a ringleader in a fringe religious group.
- 3. Paul is a temple desecrator.

I am not a ringleader in a fringe religious group, I follow the true fulfillment of the Law and Prophets.

As to the charges...



- 1. ~~✗~~ Paul is a troublemaker!
- 2. ~~✗~~ Paul is a ringleader in a fringe religious group.
- 3. Paul is a temple desecrator.

I am not a ringleader in a fringe religious group, I follow the true fulfillment of the Law and Prophets.

As to the charges...



- 1. ~~✗~~ Paul is a troublemaker!
- 2. ~~✗~~ Paul is a ringleader in a fringe religious group.
- 3. Paul is a temple desecrator.

And I never desecrated the temple, I went there to purify myself.

As to the charges...



- ❌ 1 Paul is a troublemaker!
- ❌ 2 Paul is a ringleader in a fringe religious group.
- ❌ 3 Paul is a temple desecrator.

And I never desecrated the temple, I went there to purify myself.

As to the charges...



- ❌ 1 Paul is a troublemaker!
- ❌ 2 Paul is a ringleader in a fringe religious group.
- ❌ 3 Paul is a temple desecrator.

The worst thing I did was cry out about the resurrection.

As to the charges...



- ~~1~~ Paul is a troublemaker!
- ~~2~~ Paul is a troublemaker in a fringe group.
- ~~3~~ Paul is a troublemaker and a desecrator.

The worst thing I did was cry out about the resurrection.



I will hold my ruling
until I hear from the
Tribune.



Paul has regular conversations with Felix and Drusilla (for as long as it took for Felix to get uncomfortable)

After two years, Felix leaves his position as Governor ... Next week his successor

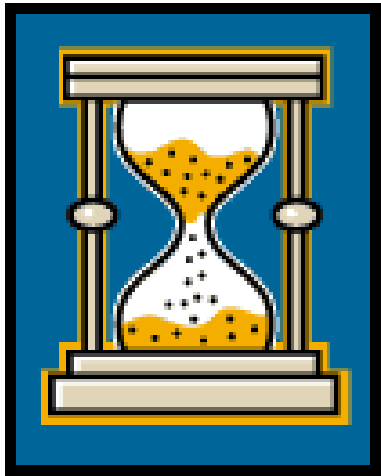


After two years, Felix leaves his position as Governor ... Next week his successor





Points for Home



“I will give you a hearing when
your accusers arrive” (Acts
23:35)

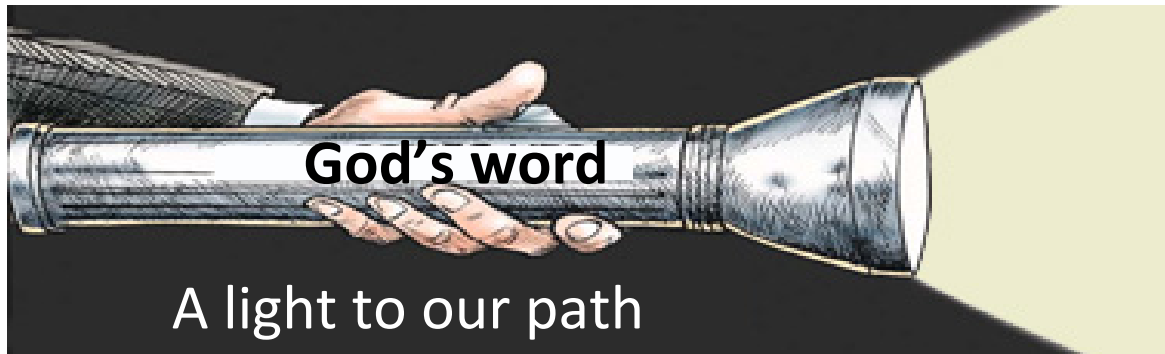


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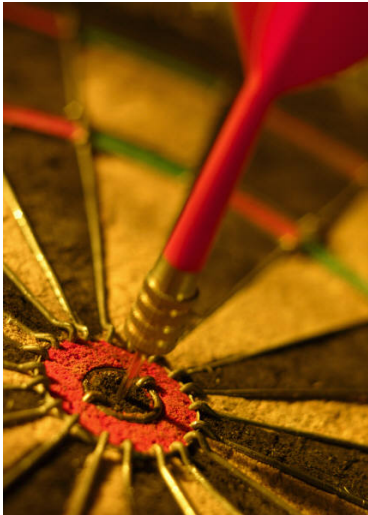


“I will give you a hearing when
your accusers arrive” (Acts
23:35)

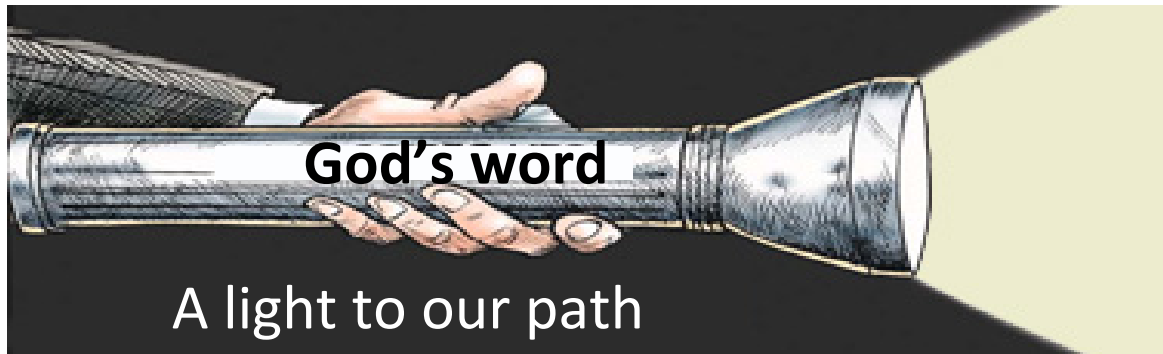
Sometimes God says “Now!” Other times he
says, “Wait!”



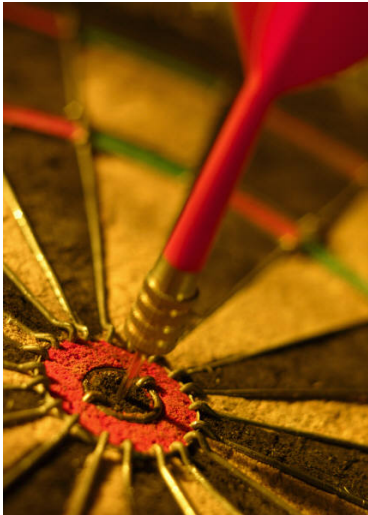
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“And when the governor had
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replied” (Acts 24:10)



Points for Home

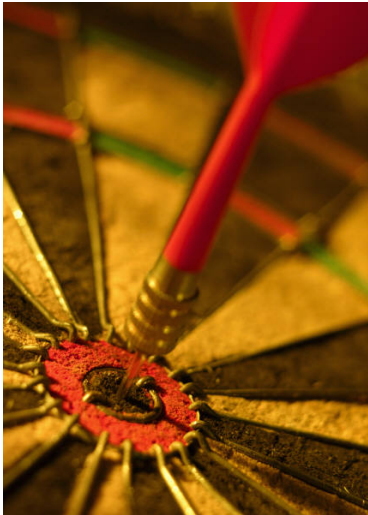


“And when the governor had nodded to him to speak, Paul replied” (Acts 24:10)

Meticulous honesty ... Nothing less



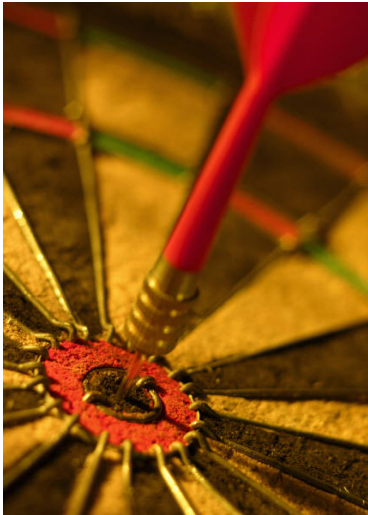
Points for Home



“Felix was alarmed and said, “Go away for the present” (Acts 24:25)



Points for Home



“Felix was alarmed and said, “Go away for the present” (Acts 24:25)

Never put off an opportunity to grow closer to the Lord!