

Acts 21

Page 42

10/9/21

Acts 21:1-16 – Paul’s Journey to Jerusalem

- Paul left the Ephesus Elders in Miletus and went to Cos, Rhodes, ect...
- Paul continued sailing but was at Tyre (A seaport north of Gallilee)
- Paul is focused on getting home to Jerusalem before Pentecost
- Paul stayed here for a week and the disciples were lead to not go on
- Paul soon departed Tyre and headed to Caesarea – Acts 21:7-14
- They stayed with the deacon and evangelist Philip – Acts 6:1-6, Acts 8:5
- A Prophet from Judea named **Agabus** warns Paul about the Jews – Acts 11:27-30
- Agabus shares how Paul will be bound and handed over to the Gentiles
- Luke and the other people around Paul urged him not to go to Jerusalem
- Paul was persistent that he wanted whatever the Lord **wills**
- Paul left for Jerusalem with only some of the disciples – Acts 21:16

Acts 21:17-26 – Paul and James

- Paul in Jerusalem were met by the Elders and James
- Paul shares how the gospel has gone out and ben received by the Gentiles.
- The **Elders** rejoiced and then shared some bad news because rumors about Paul have gotten out – Acts 21:21
- These are bad accusations that could have Paul in shackles and chains
- What accusation was against Paul, most likely the same one that was against Jesus and **Stephen**
- Unfortunately forsaking the law has been a huge stumbling block for awhile
- The solution they said is go with these 4 men and join in purification rites
- This was observing the law and also most likely this was a Nazirite vow
- The specific details to Paul’s vow are not mentioned – Numbers 6:13-17
- These men were obviously too poor to pay for themselves
- Paul was to underwrite the **expense** of there sacrifice and would display this sympathy with the zealots of the law
- Paul later says that he didnt violate his conscience – Acts 23:1

Acts 21

Page 43

10/9/21

- This might sound weird for Paul to do this but by participating in the vow he never deny or defy Jesus
- Paul later mentioned of this moment and doesn't seem to be ashamed of it – Acts 24:17-18
- So Paul partook in the purification process

Acts 21:27-36 – Paul arrested

- Unfortunately we all saw this coming, The Jews were not happy with Paul and a whole crowd **arrested** him – Acts 21:27
- This took place as Paul was almost done with his vow
- The Jews reasoning was that Paul went against the law
- The crowd grew as more people heard about what Paul has done – Acts 21:30
- They were going to kill him and the Roman guards **intervened** in the nick of time
- This was very similar to the riot in Ephesus – Acts 19
- The guards got Paul confused with someone else and this explains why he was bound
- As the crowds are in an uproar, they decide to extract Paul and take him elsewhere
- The crowd **chanted** as Paul was leaving – Acts 21:35

Acts 21:37-40 – Paul's speech

- Paul asks to speak with them so he can clear the air.
- Paul had mixed up with someone else who has made a revolt – Acts 21:38
- Paul pleads his case and is given an opportunity to speak to people
- At this point Paul has been granted the opportunity to **speak**
- Paul had waited for the commotion to settle and spoke in Hebrew to them
- “The more often we are mown down by you, the more in number we grow; the blood of Christians is seed.” – **Tertullian**
- Tertullian lived around 200 AD and was the first theologian to write in Latin. He was a Roman centurion and helped coin the word trinity