

the remotest part of the earth

#27, at Caesarea before Felix – Acts 24:1-27

Hey Pete? Yea! Where are they?
Hey man, I doe no!

Pete, are you sure the council guys toll that soldier to bring that dude to them?
Yea, he'll come by.

Hey Pete? What do you want??? We've been hiden here along time!
Jus relax and keep your eyes peeled!

Hey Pete? What now!!!!
I'm getten hungry!

Having foiled the ambush, a military escort brought Paul out of Jerusalem. His destination was Caesarea to be heard by Felix the governor. Caesarea has been a city of prominence in our study of Acts.

- 9:30, Paul preached in Jerusalem but Hellenistic *Jews* attempted to kill him so the brethren brought him to safety at Caesarea.
- 10:1, At Caesarea an angel appeared to Cornelius, a centurion, and told him to send for Peter who was at Joppa. Peter came to Caesarea and as he spoke the Holy Spirit fell on all, the Gentiles included.
- Chap 11, Peter reports to Jerusalem about miracle at Caesarea.
- 12:19, Peter escapes from Herod to Caesarea.
- 18:22, Coming back from his 2nd journey, Paul landed at Caesarea and greeted the church before going on to Antioch.
- 21:8, Arriving after the 3rd journey, Paul came to Caesarea and stayed with Philip the evangelist.
- 21:16, Some disciples from Caesarea accompanied Paul to his final visit to Jerusalem.

1 After five days the high priest Ananias came down with some elders, with an attorney named Tertullus, and they brought charges to the governor against Paul.

[1.] v:1, After five days, Felix, already having the letter by Claudius Lysia in his possession either believed the Roman commander or the high priest Ananias. Whom do you think it was and why do you think that?

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2 After Paul had been summoned, Tertullus began to accuse him, saying to the governor, "Since we have through you attained much peace, and since by your providence reforms are being carried out for this nation, 3 we acknowledge this in every way and everywhere, most excellent Felix, with all thankfulness.

4 "But, that I may not weary you any further, I beg you to grant us, by your kindness, a brief hearing. 5 "For we have found this man a real pest and a fellow who stirs up dissension among all the Jews through out the world and a ringleader of the sect of the Nazarenes.

6 "And he even tried to desecrate the temple; and then we arrested him. [We wanted to judge him according to our own Law. 7 "But Lysias the commander came along, and with much violence took him out of our hands, 8 ordering his accusers to come before you.] By examining him yourself concerning all these matters you will be able to ascertain the things of which we accuse him." 9 The Jews also joined in the attack, asserting that these things were so.

[2.] v:2-3, most excellent Felix, Write down some things Tertullus said to "sweet talk" Felix prior to his tall tale.

[3.] v:4-5, throughout the world, In our study so far, list some areas of the world (from your memory) that Paul has traveled through?

[4.] v:4-5 again, sect, Write down the definition of this word

[5.] v:6, tried to desecrate the temple;
1 "Marcus Antonius Felix (Felix in Greek: ο Φηλιξ, born between 5/10-?) was the [Roman procurator](#) of [Judaea Province](#) 52-58," About how long will it be before Titus destroys this temple?

[6.] v:6 again, tried to desecrate the temple; Something to think about! Why or why didn't God allow the temple to be destroyed?

[6.] v:6-7, we arrested him. [We wanted to judge him according to our own Law. Review Acts 21:30-31 and write down any discrepancies there might be in this statement.

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10 When the governor had nodded for him to speak, Paul responded: "Knowing that for many years you have been a judge to this nation, I cheerfully make my defense,

11 since you can take note of the fact that no more than twelve days ago I went up to Jerusalem to worship. 12 " Neither in the temple, nor in the synagogues, nor in the city itself did they find me carrying on a discussion with anyone or causing a riot. 13 " Nor can they prove to you the charges of which they now accuse me.

14 "But this I admit to you, that according to the Way which they call a sect I do serve the God of our fathers, believing everything that is in accordance with the Law and that is written in the Prophets; 15 having a hope in God, which these men cherish themselves, that there shall certainly be a resurrection of both the righteous and the wicked.

16 "In view of this, I also do my best to maintain always a blameless conscience both before God and before men. 17 "Now after several years I came to bring alms to my nation and to present offerings; 18 in which they found me occupied in the temple, having been purified, without any crowd or uproar. But there were some Jews from Asia –

19 who ought to have been present before you and to make accusation, if they should have anything against me.

[7.] v:7, with much violence took him out of our hands, **Review Acts 21:32, and write down any discrepancies there might be in this statement.**

[8.] v:10, I cheerfully make my defense, **Why was Paul comfortable testifying before Felix?**

[9.] v:11-12, What period of time do these verses cover (Acts 21-24)?

[10.] v:14-15, believing everything, **What points did Paul state in which he and his accusers agree?**

[11.] v:16-18, some Jews from Asia – **Everything seemed to be fine at Jerusalem until these guys got into the act! From our studies, who were these Jews?**

[12.] v:19, who ought to have been present before you, **Why or why wouldn't their absence mean anything?**

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20 "Or else let these men themselves tell what misdeed they found when I stood before the Council, 21 other than for this one statement which I shouted out while standing among them, 'For the resurrection of the dead I am on trial before you today.' "

22 But Felix, having a more exact knowledge about the Way, put them off, saying, "When Lysias the commander comes down, I will decide your case."

23 Then he gave orders to the centurion for him to be kept in custody and yet have some freedom, and not to prevent any of his friends from ministering to him.

24 But some days later Felix arrived with Drusilla, his wife who was a Jewess, and sent for Paul and heard him speak about faith in Christ Jesus. 25 But as he was discussing righteousness, self-control and the judgment to come, Felix became frightened and said, "Go away for the present, and when I find time I will summon you."

[13.] v:20-21, let these men themselves tell what misdeed they found, **How do you think Ananias, Tertullus and the boys wanted the hearing to go and how was it working out for them?**

[14.] v:22, I will decide your case. **Felix knew far more about "the Way" than Paul's accusers, plus he already had Lysias' written testimony in his hand. In your opinion, (considering v:24 & 26), what's really going on here?**

[15.] v:23, any of his friends from ministering to him. **Who were these folks?**

[16.] v:23 again, What are some of the concerns that Christians may have in showing love toward a brother in custody?

[17.] v:24-25, faith in Christ Jesus, righteousness, self-control judgment to come, **In your opinion, why would Felix become "uneasy"?**

[18.] v:25, when I find time, **What time would this be?**

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26 At the same time too, he was hoping that money would be given him by Paul; therefore he also used to send for him quite often and converse with him.

27 But after two years had passed, Felix was succeeded by Porcius Festus, and wishing to do the Jews a favor, Felix left Paul imprisoned.

[19.] hoping that money would be given him, **We alluded to this back in question [14.]. Why or why wouldn't you consider a person, that could be swayed by money, as a weak person?**

[20.] question [19.], List some things that you feel can "sway" a Christian?

[21.] wishing to do the Jews a favor, **Herod, in Acts 12:1-5, had seen it pleased the Jews when he murdered James. By the same token, what did Felix do to gain the Jews favor?**

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NOTES