

Lesson 12  
Paul's Journey to Rome

Acts 21:4 – 28:31

Acts 21:13. Then Paul answered, "Why are you weeping and breaking my heart? I am ready not only to be bound, but also to die in Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus."

**PRAYER FOCUS: Ask the Lord to give you strength for your journey that He will be glorified through it and that no matter what trials and storms you face in your life you will be changed into His likeness and that He will be glorified.**

We have studied briefly of Paul's journeys as he spread the gospel to the Gentiles. Keep in mind that he traveled by foot and that he suffered much persecution. Even his travels by ship were not on luxury liners. The first few verses of chapter 21 tell of his journey from Ephesus where he had a tearful departure from the church members there. In Acts 20:38 we learn that they were grieved because Paul said he would never see them again.

At the time of Paul's visit, Tyre was an island connected with the mainland by a causeway with beaches on each side. These are probably the beaches mentioned in Acts 21:6. Tyre was an ancient Phoenician port consisting of two parts; the main trade center was on an island and the old town was about a half mile away on the mainland. Alexander the Great conquered the city in 332 BC, tearing down much of it and piling the debris in the sea to fill in the sea from the mainland to the island. Gradually this area collected sand forming the causeway.

**Day One: Acts 21:4-32**

1. What was the warning the disciples gave Paul? 21:4. \_\_\_\_\_  
What additional information did Agabus provide? 21:10 & 11 \_\_\_\_\_
2. How did Paul's friends react? How did Paul react? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What false reports were given about Paul in Jerusalem? 21:20-22 \_\_\_\_\_
4. What was the solution to this problem? 21:23-24 \_\_\_\_\_
5. Was it a good solution? Explain 21:26-32 \_\_\_\_\_

❖ How do you react when you are falsely accused?

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Chapter 21 ends with Paul being arrested & bound with two chains. Paul suffered from mistaken identity (21:38). Paul using the Greek language asked permission to speak, but when he spoke to the crowd he addressed them in Aramaic. The Romans could not understand the language & thought he was instigating a riot when the crowd erupted. Paul knew what would happen to him when he was taken into the barracks for interrogation (22:24). He would be stripped, have his ankles tied to a bar, his arms tied above his head, and he would be stretched out. Then he would be beaten with the scourge which was made of heavy rawhide thongs imbedded with iron and bone.

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**Day Two: Acts 22:25 & 23:6-24**

6. What prevented Paul's flogging? Acts 22:25-29 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. What caused the uproar the next day when Paul spoke to the chief priests and Sanhedrin? 22:30 & 23:6 – 10 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. What did the Lord tell Paul? 23:11 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. What was the conspiracy formed by the Jews? 23:12 – 14 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. Who exposed the plot? 23:16 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
11. How did Paul escape? 23:23 & 24 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

❖ How has the Lord enabled you to deal with difficult circumstances?

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**Day Three: Acts 24:1-25:27**

12. Who came to Caesarea to bring charges against Paul? \_\_\_\_\_ Describe his speech before Felix.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
13. Describe Paul's response. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
14. How did Felix respond? 24:22-26 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
15. Who came into power after Felix? \_\_\_\_\_ What did he do? 24:27-25:1-6  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
16. Who did he consult & what were the results? 25:13-27 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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17. Why was it impossible to set Paul free? 26:32 \_\_\_\_\_

❖ Read 24:16. How do we keep our conscience clear before God and man?

In Chapter 26 Paul makes a defense against all the accusations of the Jews. Paul began with his childhood, covering his dramatic meeting with Christ on the road to Damascus, up to his present circumstance. Festus interrupted Paul's defense accusing him of being out of his mind for speaking of the resurrection of Christ.

**Day Four: Acts 27**

Paul was the only prisoner of rank being taken to Rome so he was allowed to take two attendants with him & they were Aristarchus and Luke. It was the custom for prisoners to be chained to timbers below deck. These prisoners faced the fate of meeting with lions, or if strong enough, they were trained as gladiators. Paul had to wear a chain but he was allowed to move freely about the ship. They sailed from Caesarea the last week of August & hoped to be in Rome by the end of October.

18. Who was in charge of the prisoners being sent to Rome? 27:1 \_\_\_\_\_

19. What advice did Paul give? \_\_\_\_\_

Was it heeded? \_\_\_\_\_

20. How was their journey? 27:13 – 15 \_\_\_\_\_

21. What was the attitude of the sailors after many days of stormy weather? 27:20 \_\_\_\_\_

22. What message did God give to Paul? \_\_\_\_\_

23. How many were on board the ship? \_\_\_\_\_ How many survived? \_\_\_\_\_

❖ Name some ways God has helped you survive the storms of life.

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**Day Five: Acts 28**

1. What island did Paul & his shipmates set foot on? \_\_\_\_\_ What were the inhabitants like? 28:1-2 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. What difficulty did Paul have & how did the islanders react? 28:3-6 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. What freedom was Paul given? 28:16 & 30 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. What reason did Paul give for being in Rome? 28:20 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. What prophet did Paul quote? \_\_\_\_\_ Who else used this same passage? Matthew 13:14 & 15. \_\_\_\_\_ What does this passage mean? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

❖ How can you serve the Lord in your present circumstances?

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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Acts 28:30 "For two whole years Paul stayed there in his own rented house and welcomed all who came to see him. 31. Boldly and without hindrance he preached the kingdom of God and taught about the Lord Jesus Christ." While under house arrest Paul was visited by Luke (1 Timothy 4:11) and Timothy (Philippians 1:1), Tychicus (Ephesians 6:21), Epaphroditus (Philippians 4:18, and Mark (Colossians 4:10). He also wrote epistles (letters) to the Ephesians, Colossians, & Philippians usually called the Prison Letters.