Acts of the Apostles

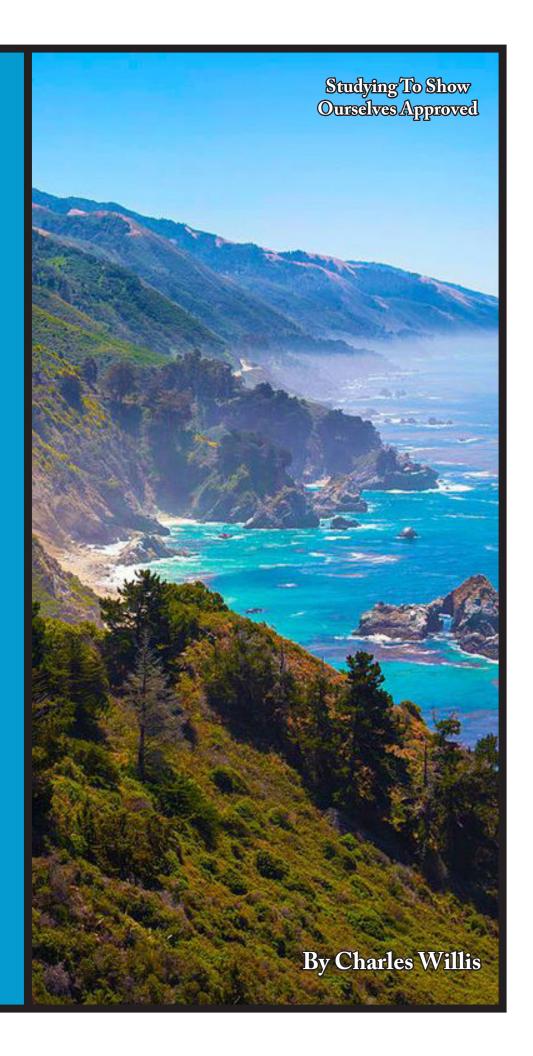


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Scripture taken from the

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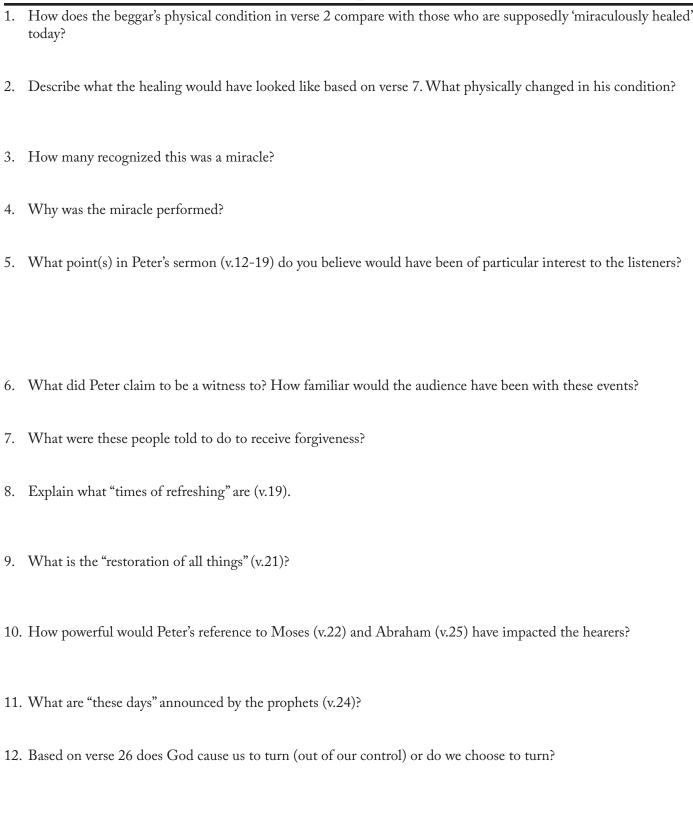
Cover Art by Gustav Dore, The Conversion of Saul

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- 1. Who wrote the book of Acts? How is this determined from verse 1?
- 2. Why were the apostles to stay in Jerusalem? What were they waiting for? When would this happen?
- 3. Verse 3 tells us Jesus spoke after His resurrection about "the things concerning the kingdom of God." What can be determined from verse 6 about the apostles understanding?
- 4. Jesus said the apostles would be witnesses of Him in what places? What other passages in the New Testament confirm they were witnesses?
- 5. What question was asked of the apostles after Jesus' ascension? How will Jesus return to the earth (Matt. 16:27)?
- 6. Where did the ascension take place? How far is a "sabbath day's journey"?
- 7. Who was continually devoting themselves to prayer with the apostles? Why is it surprising to find some who are in this list?
- 8. Peter speaks for five verses about Judas.
 - A. What Scripture was fulfilled in appointing another apostle?
 - B. Read Matthew 27:3-10 and compare it with Acts 1:18. How did Judas die?
 - C. What was the field called which was purchased with the betrayal coins?
- 9. What requirements were given for someone to become an apostle?
 - A. How many were present who met these qualifications? Which men were put forward?
 - B. Do we have men today who qualify to be apostles?
 - C. What do you imagine the feelings of Joseph called Barsabbas might have been?
- 10. The lot fell to Matthias. How many apostles are recorded in Scripture as of the end of Acts 1?

Discussion: I am impressed with all the unnamed faithful that are hinted at toward the end of Acts 1. Those whose stories we can only imagine. Apparently faithful men who traveled for years with Jesus were willing and desirous of becoming an apostle with the privileges and persecutions that were promised. How does this compare without attitude about service in the Kingdom of God?

- 1. What day of the week was a Pentecost (v.1)?
- 2. When the apostles were filled with the Holy Spirit, what did they do?
 - A. How was this possible?
 - B. What verse(s) from chapter 1 do these events correspond to? What other New Testament passages?
- 3. Who heard the sound from heaven? What was their response?
- 4. Where were all these Jews from?
- 5. Why were the Jews "bewildered" (v.6)?
- 6. From verse 7 what can be inferred about Galileans?
- 7. What explanation did the mockers give for these things?
- 8. The people were saying to one another, "what does this mean" (v.12). What does Peter say it meant?
- 9. What accusation does Peter make to the Jews?
- 10. What was God's foreknowledge and predetermined plan?
- 11. What proof does Peter give to back up his statement in verse 24 that "it was impossible for him to be held" in the power of death?
- 12. What physical evidence is referred to in order to demonstrate David was not speaking of himself?
- 13. According to verse 33, who made the speaking in tongues possible? Can you see the triune nature of God in this verse?
- 14. Where is Jesus now?
- 15. When Peter says "whom you crucified" (v.36), do you think he was referring to the Jews in general or the specific people he was speaking to? What does this demonstrate about God's love and forgiveness?
- 16. In verse 37 what does "pierced" (NAS) or "pricked" (KJ) mean? What attitude of heart can be determined by their question?
- 17. Verse 40 has Peter exhorting the Jews to "be saved."
 - A. How did they accomplish this?
 - B. What word did they receive?
- 18. How did the first century Christians grow in the Lord?
- 19. Why were they selling their property and sharing?
- 20. In addition to speaking in tongues, what else did the apostles do?
- 21. Who does the adding to the church? Again, how were these saved?
- 22. Why is Acts 2 such an important chapter? Give at least two reasons.



1.	What were the priests and Sadducees upset about?
2.	What was the result of Peter and John's preaching in chapter 3?
3.	How does the group of leaders in verses 5-6 compare with those Jesus stood before?
4.	How could we say Peter took advantage of being given the floor when asked: "By what power, or in what name have you done this?"
5.	What importance does Peter attach to the name of Jesus?
6.	What were the Jewish leaders amazed about as they watched Peter speak? How does this compare with verse 31?
7.	What reply did the priests offer to Peter's statement?
8.	Did the elders believe the miracle? Did it have the desired result with them? What did they command Peter and John?
9.	Why did Peter and John refuse to obey? Scripture says to obey those in authority (Titus 3:1)!
10.	Why were Peter and John released?
11.	After hearing of what the elders did and said to Peter and John, what was the prayer of the believers?
12.	What was the understanding of predestination of God in the first century (v.28)?
13.	Describe the unity in the church according to Acts 4. Where did the church exist geographically? Why were some having to sell their property?
14.	Why was money laid at the apostles feet?

1.	Why such a severe punishment for Ananias and Sapphira?
2.	How was this a test of the Spirit of the Lord (v.9)?
3.	What was the result of these things?
4.	What consequences would have resulted had they been successful in their deception?
5.	How was the church growing at this point in time? How had the reputation of the apostles spread?
6.	A second time the apostles are jailed by the elders of the Jews. What was the reason this time?
7.	What event perplexed the Jewish leaders?
8.	Who was more popular with the people now, the apostles or Jewish leaders? How does this compare with the trial of Jesus?
9.	When brought before the council again, what is said to Peter and what is suspiciously overlooked?
10.	Peter's reply to why he did these things was: "we must obey God rather than men" (v.29). How does this passage apply to religion today?
11.	Based on this response (and what followed), what were the intentions of the Jewish elders?
12.	Who prevented this and how?
13.	What was the attitude of the apostles after being flogged? Did this stop them from speaking boldly?

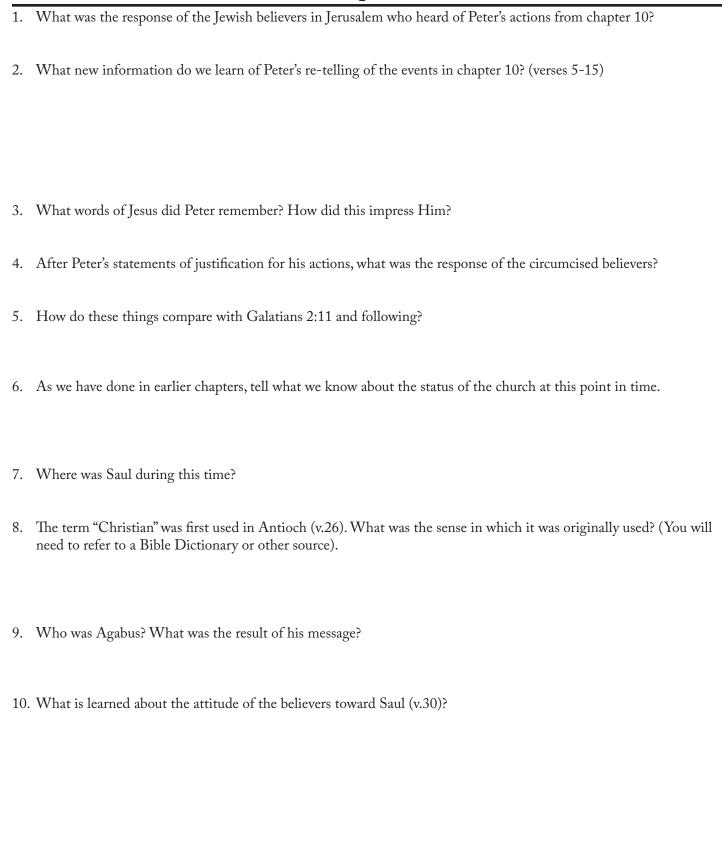
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1.	What complaint arose among the believers?
2.	How did the apostles take care of this?
3.	What did the apostles see as their "job"?
4.	Of what significance was the laying on of the apostles hands (v.6)?
5.	Relate again the state of the church at this point in Acts. What are we told in this chapter?
6.	What do we know of Stephen?
7.	How is it Stephen was brought before the council? On what charges?
8.	Please explain verse 15. What did they see? How did they know what an angel looked like?

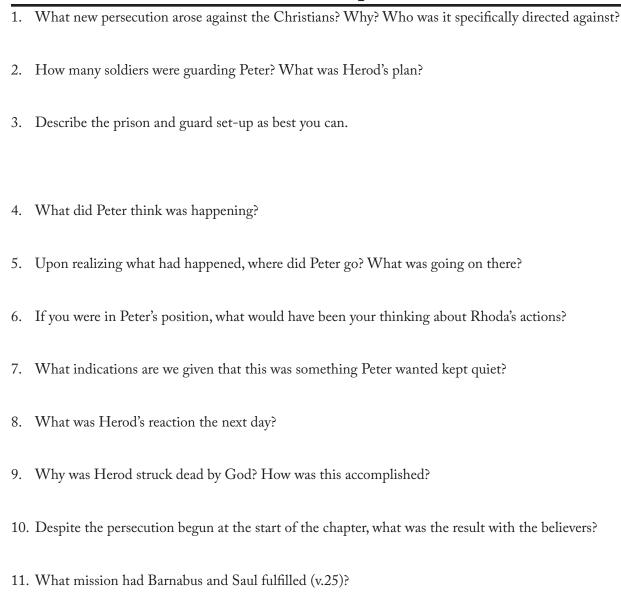
1.	Once Stephen was given the floor, do you believe he took advantage of the opportunity? How?
2.	What do you suppose might have been the thinking of the elders during verses 1-50?
3.	What stinging accusation does Stephen make (v.51)?
4.	If Stephen was full of "wisdom and the Spirit" (6:10), do you think he knew what his preaching would result in? What might this reveal of his character?
5.	Define "cut to the quick" (7:54).
6.	Who rushed upon Stephen? Why did they cover their ears?
7.	Which do you think may have led to the stoning: A. Anger B. Frustration C. Intolerance / No patience left D. Love for God and His word E. A, B, and C F. All of the above
8.	What two statements does Stephen make while being stoned?

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1.	What role did Saul take after the stoning of Stephen?
2.	What was the result of the persecution?
3.	What is significant about Philip choosing to go to Samaria to preach?
4.	What did "proclaiming Christ" (v.5) include? (Cite references from verses 5-13)
5.	Why had the people of Samaria given attention to Simon?
6.	What was the response of the other apostles upon hearing of the converts in Samaria?
7.	How was the Holy Spirit bestowed? What did this mean?
8.	What was the sin of Simon? How was he told to return to a right relationship with God?
9.	How did Philip end up in the middle of a wilderness?
10.	What do we know of the man from Ethiopia?
11.	Do you think it is peculiar to have seen Philip come running up beside the chariot? What do these events say about God helping those who are seeking the truth?
12.	Philip "preached unto him Jesus" (v.35). What did this include?
13.	When did Philip complete the task he was sent to do?
14.	At what point was the Eunuch able to rejoice?
15.	How did Philip arrive at Azotus? What did he do there?

1.	How determined was Saul against Christians? What would the Jewish leaders have thought of him?
2.	What was Saul persecuting?
3.	Was the voice from heave something only Saul could hear? How does this compare with modern people who say God spoke to them?
4.	What can we surmise by Saul fasting for three days (v.9)?
5.	What was Saul told he "must do" (v.6)?
6.	What reputation did Saul have in Damascus?
7.	What did Jesus say was His plan for Saul? How does this compare with Romans 11:13, Romans 15:16 and Galatians 2:7-9?
8.	When and why did Saul end his fast?
9.	What changes did the believers in Damascus see in Saul?
10.	How did the Jewish leaders come to view Saul?
11.	What problems did Saul face when he came to Jerusalem? Who spoke up on his behalf?
12.	How did the believers come to regard Saul?
13.	After the conversion of Saul, what happened to the persecution that began with Stephen's stoning?
14.	Why did those in Lydia and Sharon turn to the Lord?
15.	Why was word sent to Peter to come to Joppa?
16.	What good things do we know of Tabbitha (Dorcas)?
17.	Why was a miracle performed in Joppa?

1.	What was the attitude of Cornelius about God?
2.	What can be determined about God helping those who are seeking Him?
3.	What was Cornelius' response to the angel's message?
4.	What vision did Peter receive three times? What was the meaning?
5.	The meeting of Cornelius and Peter was a very unusual occurrence. Who was present when they finally met?
6.	According to verse 28 what was Peter's understanding of the events taking place?
7.	What did Peter finally understand about the gospel message (v.34-35)?
8.	Write what you believe to be the major points in Peter's sermon (verses 36-43).
9.	When the Holy Spirit "fell upon all who were listening," what does this mean?
10.	What comparison does Peter make in verse 47?
11.	The events which occurred with Cornelius' household are often referred to as a "Holy Spirit baptism." Some argue strongly that all we need to be right with God is "Holy Spirit baptism." A. Why would you disagree with this?
	B. What are we told in this chapter that refutes such a claim?
	C. How many other cases of "Holy Spirit baptism" can we read about in Scripture?





1.	Who was in the church at Antioch? How might have the Spirit spoken to them?
2.	Why were some laying their hands on Barnabus and Saul?
3.	Who was Bar-Jesus (Elymas) and what happened to him? Why did this happen to him?
4.	What pattern of teaching do we see being established as they enter a city? Where do they begin?
5.	Do you find anything interesting or surprising in verse 15?
6.	When Paul spoke to the Jews in Pisidian Antioch he gave a brief overview of the history of the Jews. What did he remind them John was saying?
7.	What did Paul affirm of those who lived in Jerusalem?
8.	What was the good news Paul was preaching?
9.	What was Paul's point in referring to Psalm 16:10 in verse 35?
10.	What was taught as necessary for forgiveness of sins?
11.	What was the response to their preaching by the Jews and proselytes?
12.	What was the response of the Jewish leaders?
13.	How had some Gentiles been appointed to eternal life?
14.	Why did Paul and Barnabus shake the dust off their feet?
15.	If women in the first century were not considered equal citizens, why did the Jewish leaders arouse the devout women of prominence? What was the purpose of this?

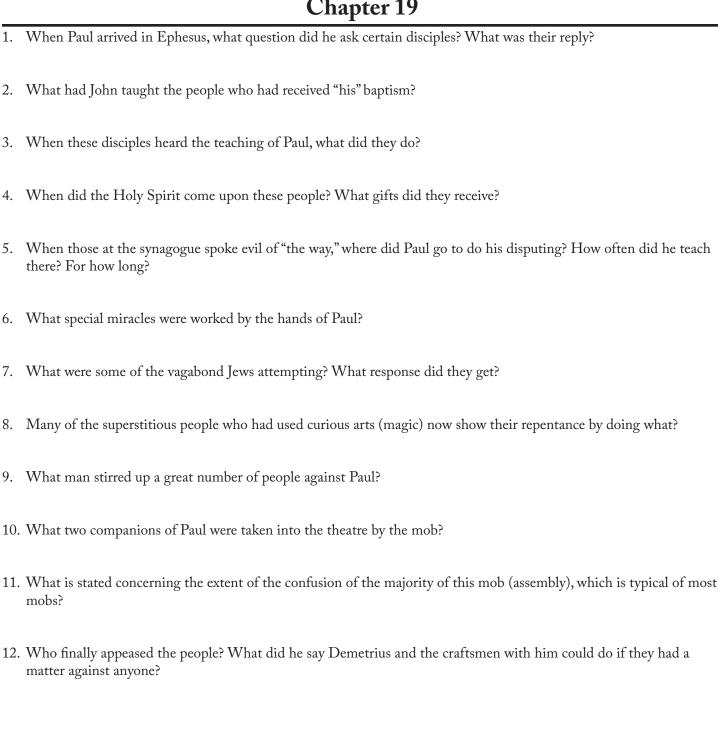
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1.	In Iconium, what were the two results of the preaching?
2.	Though some were embittered against them, what was the attitude of Barnabus and Paul?
3.	What did the preachers become aware of and what was their response?
4.	What miracle did Paul perform? Why was this done? Did it have the desired result with the people?
5.	What were the people calling Barnabus and Paul?
	A. What did Paul call "these things"?
	B. How successful were they at stopping the people?
6.	What were the Jews finally able to accomplish?
7.	From verse 20 what do you suppose the disciples thought of Paul? Did a miracle occur?
8.	What do we learn of the determination and faith of Paul?
9.	What reception could have been expected from Paul's message in verse 22?
10.	How many congregations were established (v.23)?
11.	When elders are appointed today they are generally men the congregation has known for some time. How were Paul and Barnabus able to appoint elders so quickly?
12.	What did Paul and Barnabus do upon arriving back in Antioch? How might this relate to our modern practice of receiving reports from preachers we help support?

- 1. What caused Paul and Barnabus to have "great dissension and debate" with some of the brethren?
- 2. Knowing Paul was an apostle, what was the decision after the debate? How might this have made Paul feel?
- 3. What was the attitude toward these things in Jerusalem?
- 4. Why (in verse 6) were the elders included to look into this matter?
- 5. There was much debate. Does this provide a biblical pattern for continued unrest and debate in the church today? Why or why not?
- 6. What did James say that seemed to end the debate?
- 7. How was this communicated to the congregations?
- 8. Is this another biblical pattern for elders to come together and decide doctrine which is then communicated to the congregations?
- 9. Is it wrong for there to be "leading men" among the brethren?
- 10. What were the two things which were "laid upon" the Gentile believers and why? Were these things sinful in God's sight?
- 11. From verse 25 what was the result of all the debate among the apostles and elders?
- 12. How was the letter received in Antioch?
- 13. What does verse 33 give as the result of the believers being of one mind?
- 14. Where verses 2-3 seem to show Paul and Barnabus giving to the authority of the brethren in the church in Antioch, what does 34-35 tell us?
- 15. Why did Paul not want to take John-Mark?
- 16. How encouraging was "the son of encouragement" to Paul?
- 17. Will "sharp disagreements" occur in the church such as occurred with Paul and Barnabus? Is this the same as "squabbling" over petty things?

1.	What do we know of Timothy?				
2.	Why was he circumcised?				
3.	What was being delivered by Paul and those with him (v.4)? What was the result of their preaching?				
4.	Why did they not preach in the regions of Phrygia and Galatia? Where were they sent? By whom?				
5.	Describe the believers they found in Philippi. Were was the Jewish Synagogue?				
6.	At what point did Lydia judge herself to be faithful?				
7.	Why was the spirit excised from the young girl?				
8.	What did she say Paul and Silas were preaching?				
9.	Why were Paul and Silas brought before the authorities? What punishment were they given?				
10.	What was peculiar about the earthquake?				
11.	Why was the jailer about to kill himself?				
12.	What answer was the jailer given to his question, "what must I do to be saved?"				
	A. Is this all he was told?				
	B. When did the jailer rejoice?				
13.	What word from Paul made the Philippian authorities afraid? Why?				
14.	When asked to leave the city, what did Paul and Silas do?				

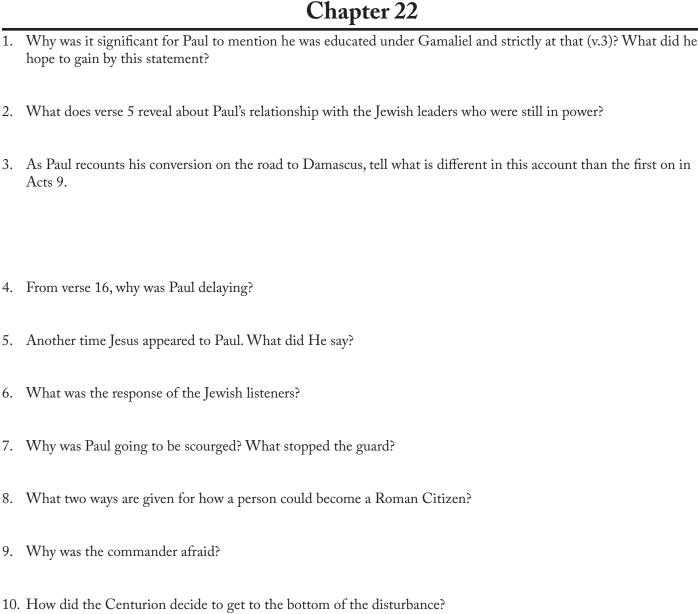
- 1. What was Paul's usual practice in preaching to the Jews when he went from city to city?
- 2. What did Paul preach when he went into the synagogue at Thessalonica? What was the result of his preaching?
- 3. What action was resorted to be the unbelieving Jews? What charge was made against Paul and Silas? Against Jason?
- 4. As a result of the action of the unbelieving Jews, Paul and Silas went to what city from Thessalonica?
- 5. When the people of Berea heard the word, what did they do?
- 6. What did the unbelievers in Thessalonica do when they heard Paul was preaching in Berea?
- 7. From Berea, where did Paul go? What was the spiritual condition of the people when Paul got there?
- 8. Who did Paul send for when he arrived?
- 9. It is stated that Paul disputed with what people?
- 10. In Paul's "sermon on Mar's Hill," did he accuse the people of Athens of not being religious?
- 11. Who were the Athenians ignorantly worshipping?
- 12. God does not need man to devise anything to help Him seeing He has given what to man?
- 13. As the offspring of God, we should not think of Him as being like unto what things?
- 14. Although there was a time that God overlooked ignorance, He now commands all men to do what?
- 15. What were the various reactions of the people when they heard Paul preach concerning the resurrection?

- 1. Upon arriving in Corinth, from Athens, who did Paul stay with? What was their occupation?
- 2. What language in this chapter indicates that Christianity is not a better felt than told experience? In other words, what indications are we given that people in the first century weighed the evidence in order to believe?
- 3. When the Corinthians heard the gospel preached, what was their reaction?
- 4. What did Jesus say to Paul? Why might this message have been needed?
- 5. Once again Paul is dragged before the authorities. What was the accusation this time? What was different this time?
- 6. What happened to Sosthenes?
- 7. Why did Paul have his hair cut?
- 8. What was Paul doing as he traveled through Galatia and Phrygia?
- 9. Who was Apollos? How does his education compare with Paul's?
- 10. What influence do you see Paul had on Aquila and Priscilla?
- 11. What kind of a preacher was Apollos?
- 12. A few questions about the conversion of Apollos.
 - A. Was he sincere in his belief which needed correction?
 - B. What attitude did he display about hearing truth?
 - C. What can you approve of the actions of Aquila and Priscilla?
 - D. Understanding that many details are left out of the Bible, do you believe Apollos was baptized into Christ? Why or why not?



- 1. Why did Paul leave Greece?
- 2. Why did Paul have so many men travelling with him (v.4)?
- 3. What time of day might the church have gathered on the first day of the week?
 - A. Explain what happened to Eutychus.
 - B. Do you suppose people were more attentive after this?
- 4. Do verses 7-11 indicate they partook of the Lord's Supper early Monday morning?
- 5. What was the purpose of gathering together on the first day of the week?
- 6. Why was Paul in a hurry to get to Jerusalem?
- 7. After stopping in Miletus, who did Paul call to him?
- 8. How did Paul say he taught the Ephesians and those in Asia (v.20)? How ought we to teach others?
- 9. What was Paul SURE about this journey to Jerusalem?
- 10. What charge did Paul give these elders? Is this applicable to all elders?
- 11. Where do false teachers come from and what is their plan?
- 12. What is able to "build us up" and give us an inheritance among all them which are sanctified?

- 1. Try to trace the cities Paul stopped at in the first 17 verses (use a map).
- 2. While at Tyre, what did the disciples try to prevent Paul from doing?
- 3. Assuming this is the same Philip we read about in Acts 8, what do we learn of his attitude toward Paul? Is this what we might expect from most men?
- 4. What message did Agabus give Paul?
 - A. What was the response of the people who heard this?
 - B. What did Paul say he was ready for?
- 5. How did the Christians in Jerusalem receive Paul?
- 6. What did Paul report to all the elders in Jerusalem?
- 7. Why did Christians desire for Paul to "keep the Law" (v.24)? Wasn't this a denial of the New Covenant in Christ?
- 8. What was the response of the Jews upon seeing Paul in the temple? Would Paul have known any of these people?
- 9. What false assumption did the Jews make about Paul?
- 10. What were the Jews seeking to do with Paul? How was this stopped?
- 11. The Centurion had trouble gathering the facts. Who did he think Paul was?
- 12. Do you think it is odd that Paul would be allowed to address the mob while in custody? Why didn't he claim his Roman citizenship at this time?



1.	What was Paul's opening statement? Give it's meaning and the response.
2.	Why does Paul seemingly apologize in verse 5?
3.	How did dissension arise causing the assembly to be divided?
4.	What might have been Paul's feelings or thoughts as the guards escorted him out of the room?
5.	Why would Jesus' statement in verse 11 been significant to Paul?
6.	What oath did some Jews make? What ambush did they plan?
7.	How does verse 16 serve as an example of things the Bible has left out that we are not aware of? Are these things essential to our salvation?
8.	How serious was the Centurion about protecting a Roman Citizen?
9.	In the letter he wrote to Felix, how did the Centurion paint his actions? What does he state was his determination after the assembly of Jewish leaders he ordered?
10.	What was to take place in the presence of Felix? How might Paul have felt about this?

2.	How did the Jews approach at prosecution differ from their presentation before Felix?				
3.	What do the Jews accuse Paul of?				
4.	What does Paul say of the charges the Jews brought against him?				
5.	Who does Paul say ought to be his accusers?				
6.	What did Paul admit?				
7.	Why did Felix put off the Jews?				
8.	What kind of custody was Paul held in?				
9.	What message of truth was Paul preaching to Felix?				
10.	Why did Felix become frightened?				
11.	What does it mean, "he was hoping that money would be given him by Paul" (v.26)?				
12.	How long was Paul in custody? Did Felix ever find a right time to obey?				
13.	How many of those who made an oath (23:12) kept it?				

1. Who was Tertullus? Why was he present?

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1.	Did the Jews forget about Paul? Why was their anger so strong?
2.	Why did they approach Festus? What was his position in the government?
3.	How many of the Jewish charges could be proved?
4.	Why did Paul appeal to Caesar? What is significant about this?
5.	Who was Agrippa? What was his position in the government?
6.	In verse 19, what does Festus say the accusations of the Jews were?
7.	How peculiar do you think it was for Paul to be re-telling his story before so many judges, any of whom could have had him killed?
8.	Why did Festus want Agrippa to hear Paul's case?

- 1. Who was in the audience Paul addressed? (see end of chapter 25)
- 2. How did Agrippa's knowledge of the Jews differ from Felix and the Centurion who Paul had already spoken to?
- 3. What does Paul tell us of his own attitude and motivations prior to his conversion?
- 4. What do we know of this light that shone around Paul?
- 5. Give the meaning of "kick against the goads" (v.14).
- 6. From all three accounts of Paul's meeting with Jesus, what was he told his purpose was to be?
- 7. How did Paul "not prove disobedient to the heavenly vision?"
- 8. Does Paul take advantage of this audience as an opportunity to preach the gospel?
- 9. Festus, who had supposedly heard these things already, thought what about Paul?
- 10. How did Paul defend himself against the accusation of Festus?
- 11. When Agrippa broke his silence, what was his statement? How might this have affected him politically?
- 12. What was Agrippa's determination upon hearing Paul's case? Does he provide any help to Festus' problem of writing charges down for Caesar?

2.	What did it mean to sail "under the shelter of Cyprus" (v.4), "under the shelter of Crete" (v.7), and "under the shelter

- 3. What did Paul "perceive" (v.10)? Was this HIS determination or a vision from GOD?
- 4. What was the concern about "wintering" in a harbor? What does this tell us about the length of this voyage?
- 5. What was a "equraquilo" (v.14)?

of...Claudia" (v.16)?

6. Explain what was done to the ship in verses 16-17.

On a map, trace the sea voyage of Paul as best you can.

- 7. How long were they caught in a storm?
- 8. How did Paul know there would be no loss of life? How does this compare with his earlier perceptions?
- 9. Why were four anchors cast from the stern?
- 10. What did the sailors attempt to do?
- 11. How many were in the ship? How long did they go without food?
- 12. When the ship became stuck on a reef, what was the plan of the soldiers? Why?

1.	Why did	the nativ	es of Malta	think Paul	was a god?

- 2. Why did Paul heal some?
- 3. What did the people of Malta do for the cast-a-ways?
- 4. Who met Paul at Rome? Is it who you would have expected?
- 5. How was Paul imprisoned in Rome?
- 6. What "sect" is referred to in verse 22?
- 7. How many were coming to hear Paul speak?
- 8. What was their response to the gospel message?
- 9. What of the guards? Did any of them obey?