



Paul's Defense before Felix in Caesarea

Acts 24:1-27

G R E A T

S E A

Gadara

Caesarea

(Sha)

Scythopolis

DECAPOLIS

Pella

SAMARIA

Sebaste

Aenon
near Salim

Gerasa

Plain of

Sychar

Antipatris

Alexandrium

Joppa

Arimathaea

Ephraim

PERAEA

Philadelphia

Lydda

Jericho

Jamnia

Jerusalem

Bethany
(Bethabara)

Azotus

Bethany

Kh. Qumran

Ashkelon

J U D A E A

Bethlehem

Herodium

Machaerus

Gozo

Hebron

SALT





Tertullus
Orator for the Jews



Antonius Felix
Procurator of Judea

Ch 24.. Paul's Trial

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Waiting for God in life

- 2 Peter 3:9 The Lord is not slack concerning *His* promise, as some count slackness, but is long-suffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

Paul's accusers arrive



- 24:1 Now after five days Ananias the high priest came down with the elders and a certain orator *named* Tertullus. These gave evidence to the governor against Paul.

Tertullus begins with flattery

- 24:2-4 And when he was called upon, Tertullus began his accusation, saying: “Seeing that through you we enjoy great peace, and prosperity is being brought to this nation by your foresight, ³ we accept *it* always and in all places, most noble Felix, with all thankfulness. ⁴ Nevertheless, not to be tedious to you any further, I beg you to hear, by your courtesy, a few words from us.

Three charges

- 24:5-9 For we have found this man a plague, a creator of dissension among all the Jews throughout the world, and a ringleader of the sect of the Nazarenes. ⁶ He even tried to profane the temple, and we seized him, and wanted to judge him according to our law. ⁷ But the commander Lysias came by and with great violence took *him* out of our hands, ⁸ commanding his accusers to come to you. By examining him yourself you may ascertain all these things of which we accuse him.” ⁹ And the Jews also assented, maintaining that these things were so.

Paul is allowed to answer

(A dangerous inciter of riots among the Jews?)

- 24:10-13 Then Paul, after the governor had nodded to him to speak, answered: “Inasmuch as I know that you have been for many years a judge of this nation, I do the more cheerfully answer for myself, ¹¹ because you may ascertain that it is no more than twelve days since I went up to Jerusalem to worship. ¹² And they neither found me in the temple disputing with anyone nor inciting the crowd, either in the synagogues or in the city. ¹³ Nor can they prove the things of which they now accuse me.

The Way (they call a sect)

(Ringleader of a dangerous sect?)

- 24:14-16 But this I confess to you, that according to the Way which they call a sect, so I worship the God of my fathers, believing all things which are written in the Law and in the Prophets. ¹⁵ I have hope in God, which they themselves also accept, that there will be a resurrection [[e](#)]of *the* dead, both of *the* just and *the* unjust. ¹⁶ This *being* so, I myself always strive to have a conscience without offense toward God and men.

Purified in the temple

(Attempting to defile the temple?)

- 24:17-21 “Now after many years I came to bring alms and offerings to my nation, ¹⁸ in the midst of which some Jews from Asia found me purified in the temple, neither with a mob nor with tumult. ¹⁹ They ought to have been here before you to object if they had anything against me. ²⁰ Or else let those who are *here* themselves say ^[f] if they found any wrongdoing in me while I stood before the council, ²¹ unless *it is* for this one statement which I cried out, standing among them, ‘Concerning the resurrection of the dead I am being judged by you this day.’ ”

The Decision by Felix

- 24:22-23 But when Felix heard these things, having more accurate knowledge of *the Way*, he adjourned the proceedings and said, “When Lysias the commander comes down, I will make a decision on your case.”²³ So he commanded the centurion to keep Paul and to let *him* have liberty, and told him not to forbid any of his friends to provide for or visit him.

Paul speaks with Felix about Christ

- 24:24-26 And after some days, when Felix came with his wife Drusilla, who was Jewish, he sent for Paul and heard him concerning the faith in Christ. ²⁵ Now as he reasoned about righteousness, self-control, and the judgment to come, Felix was afraid and answered, “Go away for now; when I have a convenient time I will call for you.” ²⁶ Meanwhile he also hoped that money would be given him by Paul, that he might release him. Therefore he sent for him more often and conversed with him. ²⁷ But after two years Porcius Festus succeeded Felix; and Felix, wanting to do the Jews a favor, left Paul bound.



Moral impact of faith

- Righteousness
- Self-control
- Judgment to come
 - Drusilla had been a child bride at 16 married to King Emessa
 - Felix had persuaded her to leave her husband & marry him
 - She was his third wife (only 20 years old)



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