

## ACTS 19-28

Acts 19:1 Now, it came to pass, while Apollos was in Corinth, that Paul, after passing through the upper regions, came down into Ephesus and when he found certain students [waiting for his “train the trainer” program],

Acts 19:2 Then he asked them face-to-face: “Did you receive the Holy Spirit as a result of your initial belief?” And they *replied* face-to-face to him: “As a matter of fact, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit [they were still living in the transitional intercalation period and had not heard the gospel of the grace of God].”

Acts 19:3 Then he asked: “On the basis of what, then, were you baptized?” And they replied: “On the basis of John’s baptism [they were part of new Israel, believing Jesus was the Messiah and having been water baptized].”

Acts 19:4 Then Paul said: “John baptized with a baptism of repentance, proclaiming to the people that they should believe on the One who was coming after him, that is, on Jesus [a gospel and a baptism for Jew’s only, a national message of repentance for Israel].

Acts 19:5 And when they heard *this*, they were baptized [water] into the Name of the Lord Jesus.”

Acts 19:6 Then, after Paul laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they began to speak with languages and began to prophesy.

Acts 19:7 And all the men were about twelve.

Acts 19:8 Now, when he entered the synagogue [in Ephesus], he continued to speak freely and courageously for three months, conducting theological discussions and appealing to the things [prophetic events] concerning the Kingdom of God.

Acts 19:9 But when some were hardened [the passive voice means they received this hardening from God; they did not harden themselves] and refused to believe, speaking evil of the Way [combination of Jewish Kingdom and Christian Church during the transition] before the multitude, and after he withdrew from them, he separated the students and continued to conduct theological discussions daily in the school of Tyrannus.

Acts 19:10 Now this continued for two years, so that all those who were residing in Asia heard the word of the Lord, both Jews and Gentiles.

Acts 19:11 And God kept on performing extraordinary [confirmatory] miracles through the hands of Paul,

Acts 19:12 So that from the surface of his body, either handkerchiefs or aprons were brought and placed upon those who were sick and they were cured from their illnesses and evil spirits came out.

Acts 19:13 Subsequently, some itinerant Jews, exorcists, also attempted to invoke the name of the Lord Jesus over those who had evil spirits, shouting: “I adjure you on behalf of the Jesus whom Paul is proclaiming.”

Acts 19:14 Now, there were seven sons of a certain Sceva, a Jew, a chief priest, who were attempting to do this,

Acts 19:15 But the pernicious spirit, answering with discernment, said to them: “On the one hand, I know Jesus and am acquainted with Paul, but on the other hand, who are you [the evil spirit knew these men were frauds]?”

Acts 19:16 Then the man, in whom the pernicious spirit resided [empowered by Satan], after both leaping on and gaining dominion over [subdued] them, prevailed against [overpowered] them, with the result that they fled from that house naked and wounded.

Acts 19:17 Consequently, this became known to all Jews and even Gentiles who settled at Ephesus. Furthermore, fear fell upon all of them and the name of the Lord Jesus was magnified.

Acts 19:18 As a matter of fact, many of those who were believers began to come forward publicly, acknowledging and reporting about their [occult] activities.

Acts 19:19 Indeed, a large number of those who engaged in occult activities [magical arts], after bringing together their books, began burning them in front of everyone. When they added together their price, they found it to be a resounding fifty thousand pieces of silver.

Acts 19:20 In this manner, according to the norms and standards of divine power, the Word of the Lord continued to grow and gain strength.

Acts 19:21 Now, as these things came to an end [temporary sign-gifts], Paul decided in the spirit, after he had passed through Macedonia and Achaia, to proceed to Jerusalem, declaring that: “After I have visited there, I also want to see Rome [his idea, not the Spirit’s leading].”

Acts 19:22 Then, after sending two who were his assistants, Timothy and Erastus, to Macedonia, he himself remained for a time in Asia.

Acts 19:23 Now there arose at that point in time no small disturbance concerning the Way [Christianity],

Acts 19:24 For a particular person named Demetrius, a silversmith, who made silver shrines of Artemis, brought no small business profit for the artisans [guild].

Acts 19:25 Now, after bringing them together with workers associated with them, he said: “Men, you know that by this business [tourist trade] we obtain our wealth.

Acts 19:26 Furthermore, you can clearly see and hear that not only at Ephesus, but almost throughout all of Asia, this guy, Paul, a most convincing persuader, has misled and turned away a large number of customers [paganism is losing business], claiming that they are not gods, those which we make by hands.

Acts 19:27 In addition, not only is our line of business [trade craft] in danger of coming into disrepute, but also the temple of the great goddess, Artemis, is at the point of being considered as nothing [worthless] and her grandeur is also being destroyed [taken down bit-by-bit], whom all Asia and the Roman Empire worships.”

Acts 19:28 Now, after hearing *these things* and becoming full of anger and rage [at the prospect of losing their financial livelihood], they began to shout, saying: “Great is Artemis of the Ephesians!”

Acts 19:29 And the city was filled with tumultuous confusion and after violently seizing Gaius and Aristarchus, Macedonians [lynch mob], traveling companions of Paul, they rushed headlong into the theatre.

Acts 19:30 And when Paul desired to enter into the crowd, the students [adherents to Christianity] would not permit him.

Acts 19:31 Furthermore, even some of the wealthy and influential Asiarchs, who were his friends, after sending for him, appealed *to him* repeatedly not to sacrifice himself in the theatre [they were pulling political strings in the background].

Acts 19:32 Meanwhile [back at the theatre], some men shouted one thing, some group another of a different kind of thing, for the assembly was confused and stirred-up [not on the same page], and many did not know what they were gathered together for.

Acts 19:33 Then they brought Alexander out from the rabble, the Jews pushing him forward. And Alexander, motioning with a hand, wanted to speak in his own defense to the people [becoming a Christian is not a problem].

Acts 19:34 But when they finally and completely recognized that he was a Jew, one voice [unity] came about from everyone within the space of two hours, shouting: “Great is Artemis of the Ephesians.”

Acts 19:35 Then the city clerk [peacemaker], after quieting the crowd, affirmed: “Men, Ephesians, to be sure, who is there among men who does not know that the city of Ephesus is the guardian of the temple and the image of the great Artemis?”

Acts 19:36 Therefore, since these things are undeniable, it is necessary [advisable according to the law] for you to be restrained and do nothing rash,

Acts 19:37 For you brought these men *here* who are neither temple robbers nor revilers of our goddess [no crime has been committed].

Acts 19:38 So, then, if Demetrius and the craftsmen associated with him have a complaint against anyone, the legal courts are open [always in session] and there are proconsuls. Let them bring charges against each other [arguing for the rule of law].

Acts 19:39 In other words, if you are demanding something beyond [seeking remedy], it will have to be settled in a legal assembly.

Acts 19:40 For to be sure, we are running a risk of being accused of a riot this very day [could be prosecuted themselves], since there is no reason for it. We will not be able to provide an explanation concerning this riotous gathering.

Acts 19:41 Then after saying this, he dismissed the assembly.

Acts 20:1 Now, after the uproar ceased, Paul, after sending for the students and paying respects to *them*, departed for the purpose of proceeding to Macedonia.

Acts 20:2 And after passing through those regions [geographic districts in the north] and encouraging them with a great deal of instruction [pastoral role], he went into Greece.

Acts 20:3 And after spending three months there, a plot was created against him by the Jews as he was about to set sail for Syria. He came to the conclusion that he should try to return through Macedonia [land route].

Acts 20:4 And there accompanied him Sopater, son of Pyrrhus the Berean, and Aristarchus and Secundus from Thessalonica, and Gaius the Derbean, and Timothy, and the Asians, Tychicus and Trophemus [delegates from various churches that donated money for the Judean Christians].

Acts 20:5 So, these men, having departed in advance, waited for us in Troas [the two groups met in Troas five days later].

Acts 20:6 And as for us, we set sail from Philippi after the days of unleavened bread and came face-to-face to them at Troas in five days, where we stayed for seven days.

Acts 20:7 Now, on the first *day* of the week, when we were gathered together to break bread [ordinary meal], Paul was conducting a discussion with them and was about to depart on the next day. Consequently, he prolonged his discourse until midnight.

Acts 20:8 Now there were many oil lamps in the upper room where we were gathered together.

Acts 20:9 And a young man named Eutychus, who was sitting on the window sill, being gradually overwhelmed by a deep sleep while Paul was conducting his lengthy discourse, eventually being overcome by sleep [had a bad case of the nods], fell down from the third story and was lifted up dead.

Acts 20:10 And Paul, having gone down [descended the stairs], fell upon him and threw his arms around *him*, saying: "Stop being distressed, for his life is in him."

Acts 20:11 Then, after getting up and preparing to break bread [dinner preparations], then enjoying a large meal and carrying on conversations until dawn, he departed without further ado.

Acts 20:12 And they brought the young man home alive and were not a little relieved and comforted.

Acts 20:13 Now, as for us, after proceeding in advance to the ship, we set sail for Assos, intending to take Paul on board, for he had made arrangements accordingly, intending himself to be traveling by foot [evasive action].

Acts 20:14 And after he met us at Assos, and we took him on board, we came to Mitylene.

Acts 20:15 Then from there, we sailed away and on the next day we arrived off Chios, and after another day, we came into Samos. And after continuing, we arrived in Miletus,

Acts 20:16 For Paul determined to sail past Ephesus, because it occurred to him not to spend time in Asia, for he was in a hurry, assuming it might be possible for him to be in Jerusalem on the day of Pentecost.

Acts 20:17 So, from Miletus, having sent *a message* to Ephesus, he summoned the elders [older men] of the church to himself.

Acts 20:18 Then, when they arrived face-to-face to him, he said: "You know *that* from the first day when I set foot in Asia, how I was present with you all the time,

Acts 20:19 Serving the Lord as a slave with all humility and tears, and with trials which came upon me by Jewish plots.

Acts 20:20 How I did not keep silent or hold back from proclaiming to you things [sound doctrines] which are profitable and to teach you publicly as well as from house-to-house,

Acts 20:21 Testifying to both Jews and Greeks, repentance toward God [Kingdom gospel for Jews] and faith in our Lord Jesus [gospel of the grace of God for Gentiles].

Acts 20:22 And now, you see, since I am bound by the [human] spirit, I am planning to proceed to Jerusalem, not knowing the things which may happen to me in it,

Acts 20:23 Except that the Holy Spirit in every city is warning me, by saying that jails and tribulations are certainly waiting for me.

Acts 20:24 But I consider my own life *to be* of no consequence, so that I might complete my course, especially the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus [as apostle to the uncircumcision] to bear witness to the gospel of the grace of God.

Acts 20:25 And now, behold, I myself know that you will never see my face again, all of you among whom I have met from place-to-place as I was preaching the kingdom [Jewish gospel].

Acts 20:26 Therefore, I affirm to you on this very day that I am pure from the blood [spiritual death] of all men,

Acts 20:27 For I did not shrink from proclaiming to you the entire plan of God [both gospels].

Acts 20:28 Keep on guarding yourselves [pastors and teachers] as well as the entire flock in which the Holy Spirit has placed before you as guardian-overseers, leading the church of God which He acquired by means of His own blood [representative analogy for His spiritual death on the cross].

Acts 20:29 As for me, I know that after my departure, savage wolves [Satan's evangelists] will enter in among you, not sparing the flock.

Acts 20:30 Furthermore, men out from your own selves [friends and family], will arise and come forward, speaking things which are distorted and misleading for the purpose of attracting student-disciples after themselves.

Acts 20:31 Therefore, keep alert and remember that for a period of three years, night and day, I did not cease from admonishing [pastoral instruction with warnings] each one of you with tears.

Acts 20:32 But now, I commend and entrust you to God and the Word of His grace, Who has the power to build you up and to give all of you an [spiritual] inheritance by means of being experientially sanctified.

Acts 20:33 I have earnestly desired no man's silver or gold or fine apparel.

Acts 20:34 You yourselves know that these hands have rendered service for my own needs [by tentmaking] as well as for those who are with me.

Acts 20:35 I have showed you all things [all doctrines necessary for spiritual growth], so that in this manner, occasionally working to the point of exhaustion [serving the spiritual needs of new believers], because you should help from time-to-time those who are in difficult situations [in a state of moral weakness] and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He Himself said: “There is more inner happiness [spiritual prosperity] when giving than when receiving.”

Acts 20:36 And after saying these things and kneeling down on his knees, he prayed together with all of them.

Acts 20:37 And there was considerable weeping by everyone, and having embraced Paul’s neck, they kissed him.

Acts 20:38 Being in great mental grief and agony, because of the declaration which he had spoken, that in the future they would never again see his face. Then they escorted him to the ship.

Acts 21:1 And it came to pass after we set sail, having withdrawn from them and setting a straight course, we arrived at Cos, and afterwards at Rhodes, and from there to the Pataras,

Acts 21:2 Then, after finding a ship which would cross the sea to Phoenicia and boarding *it*, we set sail.

Acts 21:3 Then, after coming within sight of Cyprus and leaving it behind on the left, we sailed to Syria and docked at Tyre, for the ship was going to unload cargo there.

Acts 21:4 Then, after searching for and finding student-disciples, we stayed there seven days, who repeatedly said to Paul through the Spirit that he should not embark for Jerusalem.

Acts 21:5 But it came to pass that when we had completed the days, we proceeded on our way after departing, accompanied by all of our wives and children until *we were* outside the city. Then, after bending our knees on the beach and praying,

Acts 21:6 We said farewell to each other and boarded the ship. Then they returned to their own homes.

Acts 21:7 Now, as for us, when we had completed the voyage from Tyre, we arrived at Ptolemais, and after greeting the brethren, we remained one day with them.

Acts 21:8 And on the next day, having departed, we came to Caesarea, and after entering the house of Philip the evangelist, who is out of the seven, we remained with him.

Acts 21:9 Furthermore, this man, he had four unmarried daughters who had the gift of prophecy.

Acts 21:10 Now, while we were staying *there* for many days, a man came down from Judaea, a prophet named Agabus.

Acts 21:11 When he appeared before us face-to-face, and picked up Paul’s belt and bound his own feet and hands, he said [yet another warning]: “The Holy Spirit says this, ‘The man who owns this belt, the Jews will bind in this manner in Jerusalem and will deliver *him* [turn over as an act of betrayal] into the hands of the Gentiles.’”

Acts 21:12 And when we heard these things, both we [Paul’s traveling team] and the local residents urged him repeatedly not to go up to Jerusalem.

Acts 21:13 Then Paul replied with discernment [a smokescreen for his willful disobedience to the repeated warnings from the Holy Spirit]: “What are you doing, crying and breaking my heart? For, as for me, I am not only ready to be bound, but also to die in Jerusalem. I continue to live on behalf of the name of the Lord Jesus.”

Acts 21:14 And since he was not persuaded, we became silent [gave up], concluding: “The will of the Lord will come to pass.”

Acts 21:15 Subsequently, after these days, having made preparations, we went up to Jerusalem.

Acts 21:16 And student-disciples from Caesarea also traveled together with us, and they brought along a certain man, Mnason, an elderly student-disciple, a Cypriot, with whom we should be entertained as guests.

Acts 21:17 And when we came into Jerusalem, the brethren received us gladly.

Acts 21:18 Then, on the next day, Paul went in with us face-to-face to James, and all the elders [mature members of the local church] were present.

Acts 21:19 And after greeting them, he explained every single thing [one event after another] which God had performed among the Gentiles through his ministry.

Acts 21:20 Now after hearing about *these things*, they glorified God and replied to him: “You can clearly see, brother, how many there are among the Jews who have believed. However, all [of the Jewish Christians] are enthusiastic adherents for the law.

Acts 21:21 Furthermore, they have been instructed about you, that you teach abandonment from Moses to all the Jews among the Gentiles, claiming they do not have to circumcise their sons nor conduct their lives according to customs [they are not ready to abandon the Mosaic law].

Acts 21:22 Which one, therefore, is it going to be [the Kingdom gospel or the gospel of the grace of God]? They will certainly hear that you have arrived.

Acts 21:23 Accordingly [because these are Jewish Christians who still embrace the Mosaic law], please do this thing which we ask of you. There are four men among us who have taken a [Nazarite] vow upon themselves.

Acts 21:24 After accepting them as associates, receive ceremonial purification together with them and spend freely on their behalf, in order that they may have their heads shaved. Consequently, everyone will know that the things which they have been taught about you are nothing, since you yourself agree and follow protocol because you observe the law [compromise].

Acts 21:25 Now, concerning the Gentiles who have believed, as for us, we have written [in a prior letter of introduction] and expressed our opinion [in order for everyone to get along] *that* they should keep themselves from both meat offered to idols and blood and a strangled animal and fornication.

Acts 21:26 Then Paul, after accepting the men as associates [in the role of a sponsor] and spending the day with them being ceremonially purified, entered into the temple and gave notice of the completion of the days of purification, until a sacrifice was offered on behalf of each one of them.

Acts 21:27 Now, when the seven days were about to come to an end, the Jews from Asia, having seen him in the temple, stirred-up trouble among the entire crowd and laid hands on him,

Acts 21:28 Screaming: “Men, Israelites, come to our aid! This is the man who is teaching on a repetitive basis all men everywhere against the people and the law and this place. And furthermore, he also brought Greeks into the temple [a lie] and defiled this holy place.”

Acts 21:29 [For they had previously seen Trophimus, the Ephesian, in the city with him, whom they assumed that Paul had brought into the temple].

Acts 21:30 Consequently, the entire city was shaken and became a running mob of people, and having seized Paul, they dragged him out of the temple and immediately the doors were shut.

Acts 21:31 And as they were seeking to kill him, a report went up to the military tribune over a cohort, that all Jerusalem was in an uproar,

Acts 21:32 Who immediately, while taking along soldiers and centurions, ran down towards them. And when they saw the military tribune and soldiers, they stopped beating Paul.

Acts 21:33 Then, after the military tribune drew near, he took hold of him [as you would a criminal who needs to be restrained] and ordered *him* to be bound with two chains. Then he began inquiring who he might be and what he was doing in the past and was currently doing.

Acts 21:34 However, some were shouting one thing, *others* among the crowd another thing, and when he was not able to come to know the reason for the uproar with certainty [complete and total chaos], he ordered him to be led to the barracks.

Acts 21:35 Furthermore, when he came to the stairs [of the Antonia barracks], it so happened that he had to be carried by soldiers because of the violence of the crowd,

Acts 21:36 For a large number of people was following, shouting repeatedly: “Do away with him!”

Acts 21:37 And as Paul was about to be brought into the barracks, he asked: “Will you permit me to say something face-to-face to you?” And he replied: “Do you understand the Greek language?”

Acts 21:38 So, are you not the Egyptian, the one who before these days, caused political trouble and led four-thousand men of the Assassins [Sicarii] into the desert [case of mistaken identity]?”

Acts 21:39 Then Paul replied: “As for me, on the one hand, I am a Jewish man, a Tarsusian from Cilicia, a citizen from no insignificant city. On the other hand [contrary to your assumption that I was an Egyptian], I beg of you, please permit me to speak face-to-face to my people.”

Acts 21:40 And after he had given him permission, Paul, standing on a flight of stairs, signaled with a hand to a large number of people, and when silence came about, he addressed *them* in the Hebrew language, saying:

Acts 22:1 Men, brethren, and fathers, hear my defense which *I will* now *present* to you face-to-face.

Acts 22:2 And when they heard that he was addressing them by means of the Hebrew language, they granted *him* a greater degree of silence. Then he said:

Acts 22:3 “As for myself, I am a Jewish man, having been born in Tarsus, Celicia, but reared in this city at the feet of Gamaliel, having been instructed according to the strictness of the law by my father, being zealous for God, just like you all are today,

Acts 22:4 Who persecuted this Way to the point of death, binding and delivering to jailers both men and women,

Acts 22:5 As the high priest will indeed bear witness on my behalf, as well as the entire Sanhedrin, from whom I myself also received letters against the brethren for the purpose of going to Damascus so that I might bring [as a religious zealot] those who were also living there to Jerusalem, having been arrested and bound for the intended result that they might be punished.

Acts 22:6 But it came to pass *that* as I was proceeding on my journey and was approaching Damascus, about noon, suddenly out from heaven a bright light shone around me,

Acts 22:7 And I fell to the ground and heard a Voice saying to me: “Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?”

Acts 22:8 Then, as for myself, I replied with discernment: “Who are you, Sir?” And he said face-to-face to me: “As for Myself, I am Jesus, the Nazarene, whom you are persecuting.”

Acts 22:9 Furthermore, as for those who were with me, on the one hand, they saw the light, but on the other hand, they did not hear the voice of the One who was speaking to me.

Acts 22:10 Then I replied: “What should I do, Lord?” And the Lord answered me face-to-face: “After you get up, proceed to Damascus, and there it will be communicated to you concerning all the things which are appointed for you to do.”

Acts 22:11 And when I could no longer see because of the glorious brightness of that light [blinded], being led by the hand of those who accompanied me, I came into Damascus.

Acts 22:12 Then a certain Ananias, a devout man with respect to the law, being well-spoken of by all the Jews who lived *there*,

Acts 22:13 Having come face-to-face to me and stood by me, said: “Saul, brother, receive your eyesight,” and within that hour, I regained eyesight.

Acts 22:14 Then he said: “The God of our fathers chose you for the purpose of coming to know His will and coming to see the righteous One and coming to hear the voice from His mouth,

Acts 22:15 Because you will be a witness for Him face-to-face to all kinds of men concerning the things which you have seen and will continue to see and hear.

Acts 22:16 Now then, why are you delaying? After you stand up, be baptized and wash away your sins, since you have called upon His name [Jesus].”

Acts 22:17 And it came to pass after I returned to Jerusalem and while I was praying in the temple, I entered into a trance,

Acts 22:18 And saw Him as He said to me: “Make haste and depart from Jerusalem with speed, because they [Jewish officials] will not receive your testimony concerning Me.”

Acts 22:19 And as for myself, I said: “Lord, they themselves know that I myself was repeatedly imprisoning and beating those throughout the synagogues who believed on You.”

Acts 22:20 Furthermore, when the blood of Stephen, Your witness, was shed, I myself was also standing by and consenting and was guarding the outer garments of those who were in the process of murdering him.”

Acts 22:21 But He replied face-to-face to me: “Go, because as for Me, I will send you out far away unto the Gentiles.”

Acts 22:22 Now they continued to listen to him until this statement [admitting Gentiles], then they raised their voice, shouting: “Do away with such a person from the earth, for it is not fitting or proper for him to continue living.”

Acts 22:23 And as they screamed and cast off their outer garments and tossed dust into the air,

Acts 22:24 The military tribune commanded *that* he be led into the barracks and ordered *that* he be interrogated by scourging, so that in this manner he might fully understand through it the reason they were shouting against him.

Acts 22:25 But when they had stretched him out for lashes, Paul asked the centurion face-to-face who was standing by: “Is it permitted for you to scourge a man, especially a Roman, without a proper trial?”

Acts 22:26 Now when the centurion heard *this* and approached the military tribune, he issued a report, stating: “What are you about to do, for this man is a Roman?”

Acts 22:27 Then, after approaching, the military tribune said to him: “Tell me, are you a Roman?” And he replied, “Yes.”

Acts 22:28 And the military tribune replied with discernment: “As for myself, I procured this citizenship with a large sum of money.” And Paul replied: “As for myself, I was in fact, born so.”

Acts 22:29 Then, they immediately withdrew from him, those who were on the verge of interrogating him. Furthermore, the military tribune became afraid [he could face the death penalty], after he obtained final confirmation that he was a Roman, especially because he had him bound.

Acts 22:30 Now, on the next day, because he desired to know with a certainty what he was being accused of by the Jews, he untied him and commanded the chief priests and the entire Sanhedrin to assemble. Then, after bringing Paul down, he stood *him* before them.

Acts 23:1 Then Paul, looking intently at the Sanhedrin, said: “Men, brethren, as for myself, I have lived my public life in its entirety with a clear conscience before God up to this very day.”

Acts 23:2 But the high priest, Ananias, ordered those who were beside him to strike him on the mouth.

Acts 23:3 Then Paul said face-to-face to him: “God is about to strike you, you whitewashed wall, since you are sitting on a throne and are judging me according to the law while you are commanding me to be beaten contrary to the law.”

Acts 23:4 And those who were standing by asked: “Are you reviling God’s high priest?”

Acts 23:5 And Paul replied: “I did not know, brethren, that he was the high priest, for it was written in the past and remains written today that you shall not speak badly about the ruler of your people.”

Acts 23:6 Now, Paul, after realizing that one part were Sadducees and another part Pharisees, shouted at the Sanhedrin: “Men, brethren, as for me, I am a Pharisee, a son of Pharisees. Furthermore, I am being judged because of the hope of a resurrection of the dead [the Pharisees believed in it; the Sadducees did not].”

Acts 23:7 Then, after he said this, a dissention arose *between* the Pharisees and the Sadducees and the crowd was divided in two,

Acts 23:8 For, on the one hand, the Sadducees claimed there is no resurrection, neither angelic or spirit, while on the other hand, the Pharisees acknowledged both.

Acts 23:9 Consequently, there arose a great clamor, and some of the scribes from the side of the Pharisees, as they stood up, contended sharply, saying: “We do not find any evil in this man, even if a spirit or angel spoke to him.”

Acts 23:10 Since a large uprising was materializing, the military tribune, becoming afraid that Paul might be torn to pieces by them, ordered a small detachment of soldiers, having come down, to snatch and grab him from their midst, and bring *him* into the barracks.

Acts 23:11 Then, on the next night, the Lord standing by him, said: “Cheer up and have courage, for just as you testified about the things concerning Me in Jerusalem, in this manner you must testify in Rome.

Acts 23:12 Now, when the day dawned, the Jews, while in the process of forming a conspiracy, made an oath among themselves, agreeing *that* they would not eat or drink until which time they had killed Paul.

Acts 23:13 In fact, there were more than forty men who took part in this conspiracy.

Acts 23:14 They, having come to the chief priests and elders, said: “We have invoked a divine curse upon ourselves, that we will eat nothing until which time we have killed Paul.

Acts 23:15 Now, therefore, as for you, together with the Sanhedrin, explain [bring formal charges] to the military tribune that he should bring him back to you so that you might continue to decide by a more accurate investigation the things concerning him. Meanwhile, as for us, before they approach with him, we will be prepared to murder him.

Acts 23:16 Now, the son of Paul’s sister, having heard about the ambush plot, came to his aid by entering the barracks and giving a report to Paul.

Acts 23:17 Then Paul, having called one of the centurions, made a request: “Please escort this young man face-to-face to the military tribune, for he has something to report to him.”

Acts 23:18 So then, taking him along, he led *him* faced-to-face to the military tribune and said: “The prisoner Paul, after calling me to himself, pleaded with *me* to bring this young man face-to-face to you, because he has something to report to you.”

Acts 23:19 Then the military tribune, grabbing him by the arm and withdrawing to a private place, asked *him*: “What is it that you have to report to me?”

Acts 23:20 And he replied that the Jews have agreed to ask you if tomorrow you would bring Paul to the Sanhedrin so that something [an inquiry] might continue to be asked more carefully concerning him.

Acts 23:21 As for you, therefore, do not be persuaded by them, for more than forty men from among them – everyone who has bound themselves with an oath not to eat or drink until which time they murder him. In fact, they are prepared, anticipating a positive response from you.

Acts 23:22 Consequently, then, the military tribune dismissed the young man, after instructing *him* not to tell *anyone* about the things that he had reported face-to-face to him.

Acts 23:23 Then, having summoned two men of rank, centurions, he ordered: “Make preparations for two hundred soldiers [swordsmen] that will be marching to Caesarea, also seventy cavalymen and two hundred archers, at the third hour of the night,

Acts 23:24 And place at their disposal riding animals in order that they may mount Paul upon them, for the purpose of bringing him safely face-to-face to Governor Felix.”

Acts 23:25 And he wrote a report which had this form and content:

Acts 23:26 Claudius Lysias, to the exceptional Governor Felix: Greetings!

Acts 23:27 This man, having been seized by the Jews and was about to be murdered by them, I rescued by moving in with a detachment of troops, after learning that he was a Roman.

Acts 23:28 And because I wanted to fully understand the reason by which they were bringing a charge against him, I brought him to the Sanhedrin,

Acts 23:29 Whom I found to be accused because of controversial questions related to their law, but nothing worthy of death or imprisonment by which he was charged.

Acts 23:30 And when it was reported to me *that* there might be a plot against the man, I immediately sent *him* face-to-face to you, having subsequently instructed his accusers to bring charges against him to you personally.”

Acts 23:31 So then, the soldiers, according to their received orders, having taken Paul, brought him through the night to Antipatris.

Acts 23:32 Then, on the next day, the soldiers, having left the cavalymen to continue forward with him, returned to the barracks,

Acts 23:33 Who [the cavalymen], after entering into Caesarea and delivering the official letter to the governor, then presented Paul to him.

Acts 23:34 Then, after reading *the letter* and asking *him* what province he was from, and having learned by inquiry that *he was from Cilicia*,

Acts 23:35 He affirmed: “I will hear your case when your accusers are also present.” Then he ordered him to be placed under guard in Herod’s official residence [palace with adjoining judgment hall].

Acts 24:1 Now, after five days, the high priest, Ananias, along with certain elders and a prosecuting attorney, Tertullus, came down, who along with everyone else, brought formal charges against Paul to the governor.

Acts 24:2 And after he was called, Tertullus began to accuse *him*, saying: “Since we [Jewish citizens] are experiencing great peace and tranquility because of you, and reforms have been taking place on a regular basis for this nation due to your care and concern,

Acts 24:3 We welcome *these* [blessings, prosperity] in every way and also in every place, benevolent Felix, with all gratitude and thanksgiving.

Acts 24:4 However, in order that I do not interfere with your valuable time, I encourage you to briefly listen to us by means of your gracious tolerance.

Acts 24:5 For having found this man to be a public menace and an instigator of rebellion among all kinds of Jews throughout the Roman Empire and a ringleader over the schismatic sect of the Nazarenes,

Acts 24:6 Who also tried to profane the temple, whom we consequently seized and arrested,

Acts 24:8 About whom you will be able to examine concerning all these things, as you come to fully understand the things which we are accusing him of.”

Acts 24:9 And the Jews also joined with him in the personal attack, claiming *that* these things were true.

Acts 24:10 Then Paul, after the governor gave him the nod to speak, began his judicious response: “For many years, knowing *that* you have been a judge over this nation, I cheerfully defend myself from the things against me,

Acts 24:11 Because you are able to fully understand that there has not been more than twelve days from which I myself went up to Jerusalem to worship.

Acts 24:12 Furthermore, neither did they find me in the temple disputing with anyone or stirring up trouble with a crowd of people, neither in the synagogues or throughout the city.

Acts 24:13 Neither are they able to prove to you the things which they are accusing me of.

Acts 24:14 But I acknowledge this to you, that according to the Way [Christianity], which they call heresy, in this manner I am serving the God of my ancestors, believing all things which were written in the past and stand written according to the law and the things in the prophets,

Acts 24:15 Having confidence towards God, which they themselves [emphasis on the Pharisees] also expect, that there is destined to be a resurrection of the righteous [to rule and reign in the Kingdom] and the unrighteous [to spend an eternity in torment].

Acts 24:16 Because of this [future resurrection], I myself am also doing my best to maintain a clear conscience face-to-face to God and with men on every occasion.

Acts 24:17 Now, after many years, I have returned, having brought [from one location to another] a charitable donation for my nation as well as sacrificial offerings,

Acts 24:18 During which they found me, being ceremonially cleansed in the temple, not with a crowd of people nor with an uproar.

Acts 24:19 But certain Jews from Asia, who ought to be present before you [they didn't show up] and to be bringing accusations if they have something against me –

Acts 24:20 Or let these men themselves explain what crime they found when I stood before the Sanhedrin,

Acts 24:21 Except concerning this one voice which, while standing before them, I cried out that I myself am being judged today by you concerning a resurrection of the dead ones.”

Acts 24:22 Then Felix adjourned their legal trial, after coming to a careful and accurate understanding about the Way, by saying: “When Lysias, the military tribune, comes down, I will make a final determination on the things [criminal charges] against you.”

Acts 24:23 Then he commanded a centurion to guard him, but let him have freedom [within the palace] and not deny him service [assistance] from his own associates [friends and relatives].

Acts 24:24 Now, after a few days, Felix, having returned with his own wife, Drusilla, who was a Jewess, sent for Paul and listened to him concerning doctrine about Christ Jesus.

Acts 24:25 And while he was in the process of discussing things concerning righteousness and self-control and the judgment which was about to come, Felix, having become terrified, replied with discernment: “For the time being, go away, and when I find time, I will call for you.

Acts 24:26 Meanwhile, he was also anticipating that money [a bribe] would be given to him on Paul's behalf. For this reason, he sent for him frequently and talked with him.

Acts 24:27 But after a period of two years had passed, Felix was replaced by a successor, Porcius Festus, and desiring to grant a favor to the Jews, he left Paul behind bound and arrested.

Acts 25:1 Then, three days after he set foot in the province, Festus came up to Jerusalem from Caesarea,

Acts 25:2 And the chief priests and prominent men among the Jews brought formal charges against Paul and made repeated requests to him,

Acts 25:3 Requesting a personal favor [act of goodwill from the new governor] against him that he might summon him to Jerusalem while they prepare an ambush for the purpose of murdering him along the road.

Acts 25:4 However, instead, Festus replied with discernment that Paul would continue to be guarded in Caesarea and that he himself intended to return there with haste.

Acts 25:5 Then he affirmed: “Let the able-bodied among you go down with me. If there is anything wrong with the man, then you may accuse him.”

Acts 25:6 And after spending no more than eight or ten days among them, and having gone down to Caesarea, on the following day, after sitting down on the judicial bench, he ordered Paul to be brought forward.

Acts 25:7 And when he arrived, the Jews who had come down from Jerusalem stood around him and brought many and severe charges which they did not have the power to prove.

Acts 25:8 While Paul was speaking in his own defense: “Neither against the law nor against the temple nor against Caesar did I commit a sin of any kind.”

Acts 25:9 Then Festus, who wanted to grant a favor to the Jews, asked Paul to think it over and reply with discernment [after carefully considering the situation]: “Are you willing, after I return to Jerusalem, to be judged there with reference to these things under my authority?”

Acts 25:10 Then Paul replied: “I wish to stand before the judicial bench of Caesar, where I should be judged. I have not done anything wrong to the Jews, as you also know fully well.

Acts 25:11 Now then, assuming I am an evildoer or have committed anything worthy of death, I do not refuse to die, but since nothing exists [no violation of any kind] that they [the lying Jewish conspirators] have accused me of, nobody has the power to give me up as a favor to them. I appeal to Caesar.”

Acts 25:12 Then Festus, after discussing the matter with the council, replied with discernment: “You have appealed to Caesar; unto Caesar you shall go.”

Acts 25:13 However, after some days passed, King Agrippa and Bernice came down to Caesarea to greet Festus,

Acts 25:14 And when they had spent many days there, Festus laid the things concerning Paul before the king, saying: “There is a certain man who was left behind a prisoner by Felix,

Acts 25:15 Concerning whom, when I was in Jerusalem, the chief priests and Jewish elders brought formal charges and requested a sentence of condemnation against him,

Acts 25:16 Face-to-face to whom [backroom talk with chief priests and elders] I answered with discernment that it is not a custom of the Romans to deliver any man before the one who has been accused has the appearance of the accusers present and has an opportunity to present a defense with reference to the accusation [criminal charge].

Acts 25:17 Consequently, after they assembled in this place and having proceeded without delay, while seated on the judicial bench, I ordered the man to be brought forward,

Acts 25:18 Against whom, after the accusers [the Jewish conspirators] stood up, they brought forward no evidence of evildoing [to substantiate their criminal charges] which I for one had anticipated,

Acts 25:19 But instead, they brought against him certain controversial questions concerning their own religion and concerning a man, Jesus, who was and still is dead, whom Paul claims is alive.

Acts 25:20 Now as for myself, being at a loss concerning these things, I asked whether he wished to proceed to Jerusalem and be judged concerning these things there.

Acts 25:21 But since Paul made his appeal to be held and reserved for a judicial decision by Augustus, I ordered him to be guarded until which time I send him face-to-face to Caesar.

Acts 25:22 Then Agrippa *said* face-to-face to Festus: “I myself would also like to hear the man.” “Tomorrow,” he replied, “you will hear him.”

Acts 25:23 Therefore, on the next day, after Agrippa and Bernice appeared with great pomp [regal pageantry], and they entered into the legal chamber, along with both military tribunes and the most prominent men of the city, and after Festus gave the command, Paul was brought in.

Acts 25:24 Then Festus announced: “King Agrippa, and all men who are present with you, you see this man, concerning whom an entire crowd of Jews appealed to me both in Jerusalem and in this place, shouting that he must not continue to live any longer,

Acts 25:25 But as for myself, I found *that* he had committed nothing worthy of death, and because he himself had appealed to Augustus, I decided to send *him*,

Acts 25:26 Concerning whom I do not have anything definite to write to my Lord. For this reason, I brought him forward before you all and especially before you, King Agrippa, so that after the preliminary investigation is over, I might have something to write.

Acts 25:27 For it seems unreasonable to me to send a prisoner, but not explain the accusations against him.

Acts 26:1 Then Agrippa said face-to-face to Paul: “Permission has been granted to you to speak on your own behalf.” Then Paul, while extending a hand, began his verbal defense.

Acts 26:2 “Concerning all the things which I have been accused of by the Jews, King Agrippa, I consider myself privileged because I am about to begin presenting my verbal defense before you today,

Acts 26:3 Especially because you are an expert with reference to all things related to Jewish customs as well as controversial questions [theologically debated topics]. For this reason, I beg of you to hear me patiently.

Acts 26:4 Now, in fact, the manner of life which I lived from the beginning of my youth among my people in Jerusalem, all Jews know thoroughly,

Acts 26:5 Who have known me from the beginning, if they are willing to testify, that according to the strictest sect of our religion, I lived as a Pharisee.

Acts 26:6 And now I stand and am being judged because of the hope of the promise [of a future resurrection] which was given by God to our ancestors,

Acts 26:7 Toward which [promise of resurrection] our twelve [Jewish] tribes, who have continued to serve by carrying out religious duties with earnestness day and night, expect to experience, concerning which hope [of a future resurrection] I am being accused by the Jews [conspiratorial Sadducees], O King.

Acts 26:8 Why is it considered an unbelievable thing by your side if God raises the dead?

Acts 26:9 As for myself, in fact, I thought within myself that I should do many things against the name of Jesus, the one from Nazareth,

Acts 26:10 Which, to be sure, I did in Jerusalem, inasmuch as I myself, having received the authority from the chief priests, locked-up many of the saints [Christians] in prison. And when they were condemned to death, I had cast a vote against *them*.

Acts 26:11 And quite often, after punishing them in all of the synagogues, I compelled *them* to commit blasphemy, and being exceedingly enraged against them, I persecuted *them* even as far as foreign cities.

Acts 26:12 As I was traveling to Damascus with reference to these activities [persecution of Christians], with authority and full delegated power from the chief priests,

Acts 26:13 At the middle of the day, I saw along the road, O King, a light from heaven above the brightness of the sun, shining around me and those who were traveling with me.

Acts 26:14 And after all of us fell to the ground, I heard a voice which said face-to-face to me in the Hebrew language: ‘Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me? It *should be* hard for you to continue kicking against the goads.’

Acts 26:15 Then, as for myself, I inquired: ‘Who are you, Lord?’ And the Lord replied: ‘I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting.’

Acts 26:16 Now, get up and stand on your feet. I have appeared to you for this purpose, having appointed you *to be* a servant leader and witness with reference to the things you alone have both seen and with reference to the things I will be revealing to you.

Acts 26:17 Delivering you from the people [unbelieving Jews] and from the Gentiles [unbelievers], toward whom I myself will send you,

Acts 26:18 For the purpose of opening their eyes so that they will turn from [conversion] darkness [Satan’s cosmic system] to light [divine system], i.e., from the authority of Satan to God, so that they will receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those [other believers] who have been sanctified by faith in Me.

Acts 26:19 Therefore, King Agrippa, I did not become disobedient to the heavenly vision,

Acts 26:20 But to those in Damascus first and then Jerusalem and every region of Judea and to the Gentiles, I keep on announcing that they should repent and turn to [conversion] God, performing spiritual activities worthy of repentance.

Acts 26:21 On account of these things, the Jews, having arrested me while I was in the temple, are trying to murder *me*.

Acts 26:22 Consequently, having received extraordinary help from God up to this very day, I stand testifying to both insignificant [small] men and important [great] men, communicating nothing except the things which both the prophets and Moses said are destined to occur,

Acts 26:23 That the Messiah *will be subject to* suffering, that He *will be* the first resurrection from the dead, destined to proclaim light both to the people and to the Gentiles.”

Acts 26:24 Now as he was speaking in his own defense, Festus shouted with a loud voice: “You are losing your mind, Paul! Your exceptional education is driving *you* mad.”

Acts 26:25 But Paul replied: “I am not losing my mind, honorable Festus. But rather, I am speaking words of truth and mental soundness,

Acts 26:26 For the king knows about [is acquainted with] these things, before whom I am also attempting to speak freely and courageously, for I am persuaded that none of these things have escaped his attention [they are not hidden], for this thing [the resurrection and/or advent of the Messiah] was not done in a corner [in obscurity].

Acts 26:27 King Agrippa, do you believe the prophets? I know that you believe.”

Acts 26:28 But Agrippa *replied* faced-to-face to Paul: “With so little, did you expect to persuade me, to make me a Christian?”

Acts 26:29 Then Paul *said*: “I pray to God *that* whether by a little or by a lot, not only you but also all who are listening to me today, will become such as I also am, except for these chains.”

Acts 26:30 And the king stood up as well as the governor and Bernice and those who were seated with them,

Acts 26:31 And after withdrawing, they spoke face-to-face to each other, verbally agreeing that this man had done nothing worthy [deserving] of death or imprisonment.

Acts 26:32 Then Agrippa said to Festus: “This man was able to be released if he had not appealed to Caesar.”

Acts 27:1 Now, when it was decided [as a consequence of the legal process] that we would be sent by ship to Italy, they delivered both Paul and certain other of a different kind of prisoners [guilty, not Christian, non-Jewish] to a centurion named Julius, belonging to the Augustan cohort [600-man military delegation].

Acts 27:2 And after boarding a ship from the seaport of Adramyttium which was about to sail to destinations along the coast of Asia, we set sail, there being with us Aristarchus, a Macedonian from Thessalonica.

Acts 27:3 And on the next *day*, we landed in Sidon, and Julius [the centurion], treating Paul kindly, permitted him to be taken face-to-face to friends for the purpose of obtaining care and attention.

Acts 27:4 Then, after putting out to sea from there, we sailed under the shelter of Cyprus, because the winds were against us.

Acts 27:5 And after we sailed through the open sea from Cilicia to Pamphylia, we arrived at Myra, Lycia.

Acts 27:6 And after locating an Alexandrian ship there which was sailing to Italy, the centurion put us on board in it.

Acts 27:7 Then, as we sailed slowly for many days and made progress with difficulty toward Cnidus, since the wind would not permit us to travel onward, we sailed on the leeward side of Crete off Cape Salome,

Acts 27:8 And with difficulty, sailing past it, we arrived at a place which is called Fair Havens, which is near the city of Lasea.

Acts 27:9 Now, since a considerable amount of time had passed and the voyage continued to be extremely dangerous and because the abstention from eating food [to avoid sea sickness] was now over, Paul began to advise *them*:

Acts 27:10 Saying to them: “Men, I perceive from our past experience that the voyage has reached the point of becoming a disaster, with considerable damage, not only with reference to the cargo and the ship, but also including our lives.”

Acts 27:11 But the centurion was persuaded by the captain and owner of the ship more than by the things recommended by Paul.

Acts 27:12 Furthermore, since the harbor was unfavorable for the purpose of wintering, the majority made the decision to depart from there, if only they might somehow be able to reach Phoenix for the purpose of spending the winter at a harbor of Crete which could be seen towards the southwest and northwest.

Acts 27:13 And when a southern wind began to blow gently and they were convinced *that their* plan [to winter in Phoenix] was attainable, after weighing anchor, they sailed along the coast of Crete.

Acts 27:14 But not long afterwards, a typhoon wind broke loose against it, which is commonly called Euroquilo,

Acts 27:15 And the ship, which was being violently seized and dragged away, was not able to face the wind, and as we succumbed to it, we were carried away.

Acts 27:16 Consequently, running along the leeward side of a tiny island which is called Clauda, we were able with difficulty to get a skiff under control,

Acts 27:17 Which, after they hoisted *it* up, they employed the use of supporting cables for the purpose of undergirding [holding the infrastructure together] the ship [the larger main vessel]. And because we were afraid that we might run aground on the Syrtis rocks and sand, having lowered a small anchor [to plumb the depth of the water and signal when moving over rocks and shoals], we continued to be carried along in this manner.

Acts 27:18 And because we were being violently tossed about by it, next [in the order of emergency procedures] we began to jettison the ship’s cargo.

Acts 27:19 Then, on the third day, we tossed overboard with our own hands the ship’s gear [tackling].

Acts 27:20 Furthermore, when neither sun nor stars made an appearance for many days, and no small winter storm pressed in upon us, all remaining hope that we might be delivered was taken away from us.

Acts 27:21 And because many of them exhibited a lack of appetite, Paul, having stood up in the middle of them, said: “O men, due to the circumstances it should be acknowledged that we should have followed my advice - not to set sail from Crete and as a result to have avoided this disaster and damage.

Acts 27:22 But now I urge you to cheer up and be courageous, for there will be no loss of life among you, only the ship,

Acts 27:23 For an angel from the God whom I myself represent and whom I worship stood before me this evening,

Acts 27:24 Saying, “Stop being afraid, Paul. It is necessary for you to stand before Caesar, so you see, God has been gracious and will continue to be gracious towards you, including all those who are sailing with you.”

Acts 27:25 “Therefore, be cheerful and courageous, men, for I trust God that it will happen just as in the manner in which it was communicated to me.

Acts 27:26 However, it is necessary for us to run aground [shipwrecked] on a certain island.”

Acts 27:27 Now, when the fourteenth night arrived, as we were being driven in the Hadria Sea, about the middle of the night, the sailors suspected that some land was approaching us,

Acts 27:28 And after lowering the lead and performing a sound test, they discovered twenty fathoms, and after they had sailed a short distance further and lowering the lead for a sound test again, they discovered fifteen fathoms,

Acts 27:29 And fearing that we might run aground somewhere against some rocky places, and having cast four anchors from the stern of the ship, we prayed for daylight to arrive.

Acts 27:30 Now, as the sailors were seeking to flee from the ship and had lowered the skiff into the sea under pretense [falsely alleged motive], as though they were about to run out the anchors from the bow of the ship,

Acts 27:31 Paul said to the centurion and soldiers: “If these men do not remain in the ship, you yourselves will not be able to be delivered.”

Acts 27:32 Then the soldiers cut the ropes off of the skiff and let her fall.

Acts 27:33 Now, before the day which was about to begin, Paul encouraged everyone to receive and eat their share of food, saying: “Today is the fourteenth day that you have waited without eating. Continue no longer and begin to partake of food again.

Acts 27:34 Therefore, I encourage you to receive and eat your share of food, for this is at your disposal for the purpose of facilitating your preservation, for not one hair from your head will be lost.

Acts 27:35 And having said these things and having taken bread, he gave thanks to God in the presence of everyone, and after breaking *it*, he began to eat.

Acts 27:36 Then everyone began to cheer-up and they themselves took food.

Acts 27:37 Now, there were two hundred seventy-six souls all together on the ship.

Acts 27:38 And when they had eaten more than enough food, they began to lighten the ship by casting out grain into the sea.

Acts 27:39 Now, when daylight arrived, they did not recognize the land, but they observed a certain bay which had a beach, on which they deliberated whether they might be able to run the ship aground.

Acts 27:40 Then, after untying the anchors, they let them go into the sea. At the same time, after unfastening the ropes that tied the rudder bands to the steering paddles, and hoisting the foresail towards the wind, they headed towards the shore,

Acts 27:41 And when they encountered a passage between two reefs, they ran the ship aground. On the one hand, the bow remained immovable, stuck fast, but on the other hand, the stern began to break up due to the force of the waves.

Acts 27:42 Now, a consensus of the soldiers came about with the result that they wanted to kill the prisoners so none could escape by swimming away.

Acts 27:43 But the centurion, who desired to rescue Paul, prevented them from their intention and commanded those who were able to swim, having thrown themselves overboard, to get on land first,

Acts 27:44 And the rest, whom on the one hand, on planks, and on the other hand, others on anything from the ship. And so, in this manner, it came to pass that everyone escaped to land.

Acts 28:1 And after being brought through safely, then we fully recognized that the island was called Melita.

Acts 28:2 And the foreign-speaking inhabitants showed us no lack of extraordinary kindness, for, having started a fire, they welcomed all of us because of the rain which was approaching and because of the cold.

Acts 28:3 Now, as Paul gathered a bundle of dry wood and laid some of it on the fire, a viper [poisonous snake], exiting from the heat, seized and fastened onto his hand,

Acts 28:4 Then, when the foreign-speaking inhabitants saw the poisonous creature hanging from his hand, they kept on saying face-to-face to each other: "By all means, this man must be a murderer, whom, although he was brought safely through the sea, the goddess of Justice will not permit *him* to continue living."

Acts 28:5 However, after he shook off the poisonous creature into the fire, he suffered no harm as a consequence.

Acts 28:6 Now, they continued to expect him to arrive at the point of swelling-up and burning with fever and immediately falling down dead, but after they had waited for quite some time and saw that nothing wrong was happening to him, they changed their minds and said that he was a god.

Acts 28:7 Now, in and around this place were properties owned by the chief official of the island, named Publius, who welcomed and entertained us hospitably as guests for three days.

Acts 28:8 And it came to pass that the father of Publius was lying down sick, tormented by gastric fevers and dysentery, face-to-face to whom Paul entered and prayed and having laid hands upon him, he healed him.

Acts 28:9 Then, after this took place, others on the island who also had sicknesses came and were healed,

Acts 28:10 Who also honored us with many honors, and when we were ready to set sail, they provided ample supplies necessary for the trip.

Acts 28:11 Now, after three months, we set sail on a ship from Alexandria, distinguished by the insignia of the Dioscuri [twin sons of Zeus: Castor and Pollox, patron deities of sailors], having spent the winter on the island.

Acts 28:12 And having landed in Syracuse [on the east coast of Sicily], we stayed there for three days,

Acts 28:13 From where, having sailed in a roundabout manner [tacking in unfavorable winds], we arrived in Rhegium [on the toe of Italy], and after one day, having encountered a southwesterly wind, on the second day we arrived in Puteoli,

Acts 28:14 Where, having found brethren, we were invited to stay with them for seven days. Then, without further ado, we traveled and entered Rome.

Acts 28:15 And from there, the brethren, having heard things about us, came to meet us near the Forum at Appius [43 miles outside of Rome] and the Three Taverns [33 miles outside of Rome], whom [the Christian welcoming committee] when Paul saw *them*, he gave thanks to God *and* took courage.

Acts 28:16 And when we entered Rome, Paul was given permission to live by himself with the soldier who guarded him.

Acts 28:17 And it came to pass after three days that he called together those who were most prominent among the Jews. And when they met together, he said face-to-face to them: “As for myself, men, brethren, although I have not done anything against the people or the customs of the fathers, I was delivered as a prisoner from Jerusalem into the hands of the Romans,

Acts 28:18 Who were such that after they had examined me, were willing to release *me* because there was no cause [legal justification] for death in my case.

Acts 28:19 But when the Jews continued to speak against me, I was forced to appeal to Caesar, though not as one who had anything to accuse my nation of.

Acts 28:20 Therefore, because of this situation [inability to get a fair hearing before the politico-religious leaders in Jerusalem], I implored you to see and speak with *me*, because on account of the hope of Israel I am bound by this chain.

Acts 28:21 But they replied face-to-face to him: “As for us, we have not received reports from Judaea concerning you, nor has any brethren, having made a public appearance, reported or communicated anything wicked concerning you.

Acts 28:22 However, we consider it appropriate to hear *what* you think concerning these things, for to be sure, with reference to this religious sect [Christianity], it is common knowledge to us that it is being spoken against everywhere.

Acts 28:23 Then, after selecting with him a day, many appeared face-to-face before him at his guest room, to whom he explained the Kingdom of God, by testifying and appealing to them concerning Jesus, both from the law and the prophets, from early in the morning until evening.

Acts 28:24 Subsequently, on the one hand, some were persuaded by the things which had been said, but on the other hand, *some* refused to believe.

Acts 28:25 Now, since they were in disagreement face-to-face with one another, they dismissed themselves when Paul quoted one passage: “The Holy Spirit rightly spoke through the prophet Isaiah face-to-face to your fathers,

Acts 28:26 Saying, Proceed face-to-face to this people and say, By means of hearing, you will hear, but you will never understand [internal: spiritual comprehension]. Furthermore, by means of seeing, you will see, but you will never perceive [internal: spiritual perception].

Acts 28:27 For the mentality of the soul of this people [unbelieving Jews] has been made dull. Consequently, they hear with great difficulty with their ears and they have closed their eyes lest they see with their eyes and hear with their ears and understand with the mentality of their soul and turn around and I shall heal them.

Acts 28:28 Let it be known to you [unbelieving Jews], therefore, that this salvation from God will be sent to the Gentiles and they themselves will hear it.

Acts 28:30 Now, he lived for a period of two whole years in his own lodging and he welcomed all those who came face-to-face to him,

Acts 28:31 As he preached the Kingdom of God and taught the things concerning the Lord Jesus Christ without hindrance with complete confidence.