

Paul in Jerusalem - [Acts 21:17-22:29](#)

Topics: [Believers](#), [Church](#), [Law](#), [Leadership](#), [Obedience](#), [Praise](#), [Rules](#), [Vows](#), [Zeal](#)

Open It

*What are some ways your life-style or way of life is different from that of your parents?

If most people in your community shaved their head because it was the fashion, how long (if ever) would it take you to follow suit?

*How does it make you feel when someone is treated unfairly?

If you were challenged to take part in a peaceful demonstration for a good cause, what would you do?

What personal accomplishment has been most satisfying to you?

*What do you have in common with a friend, a coworker, or a neighbor?

If you told your life story to a group of friends, what would surprise them most?

*How do you tend to react under pressure?

What might make you consider giving up your citizenship?

If you could become a citizen of another country, which country would you choose?

What rights does your citizenship give you that people of other countries don't have?

Explore It

How were Paul and his companions received in Jerusalem? ([21:17](#))

After a day in Jerusalem, with whom did the missionaries meet? ([21:18](#))

*What did Paul report? To whom? ([21:18-19](#))

How did the leaders of the Jerusalem church respond to Paul's report? ([21:20](#))

*What concern did the church leaders voice? ([21:20](#))

What false report had gone out concerning Paul? ([21:21](#))

*What did the leaders of the church suggest that Paul do? Why? ([21:22-24](#))

Why did the leaders suggest that Paul join in the purification rites of four men and pay for their expenses? ([21:22-24](#))

What decision of the Jerusalem Council was repeated? ([21:25](#))

Why did the leaders bring up the Jerusalem decree? ([21:25](#))

What did Paul and the young men do the next day? ([21:26](#))

What happened when Paul went to the temple? ([21:27](#))

*Who stirred up the crowd and seized Paul? Why? ([21:27-29](#))

What did the Jews from Ephesus say? ([21:28](#))

What were the false charges against Paul? ([21:28-29](#))

How did the city respond to the furor over Paul? (21:30)

What did the people do to Paul? (21:30-31)

*Why were the temple gates shut? (21:30-31)

*What did Paul ask as he was about to be taken away? (21:37)

Why was the tribune surprised that Paul could speak Greek? (21:38)

In establishing his background, what did Paul say? (21:39)

What did Paul request? (21:39)

*What language did the apostle use in speaking to the crowd? (21:40)

*How did Paul address his audience? (22:1)

What made the crowd quiet down? (22:2)

What did Paul say about his rearing and training? (22:3)

What was Paul like before his conversion? (22:4-5)

How was Paul converted to Christ? (22:6-9)

How did Paul learn about the nature of his future ministry? (22:10-16)

Who was Ananias? (22:12)

Why did Paul leave Jerusalem? (22:17-18)

What did Paul's reply to the Lord show? (22:19-20)

What did the Lord tell Paul to do? (22:21)

How did the commander of the Roman troops and his men intervene while Paul was under attack? (21:31-32)

*How did the commander and his soldiers save Paul's life? (21:32)

What did the commander do to Paul? (21:33)

How was Paul arrested? (21:33)

When the Roman commander asked what Paul had done, why couldn't he get at the truth? (21:33-34)

Why was Paul taken to the barracks? (21:34)

Why was Paul carried away by the soldiers? (21:35-36)

*How did Paul anger the crowd? (22:22)

*How did the mob express their intense anger? (22:23)

*Why did the commander order that Paul be taken away and beaten? (22:24)

Why was the commander confused by what was happening? (22:24)

To what fact did Paul call the centurion's attention? (22:25)

What was reported to the commander? (22:26)

What did the commander ask Paul? (22:27)

Why did the commander tell Paul that his citizenship had been bought? (22:28)

How did Paul cap the commander's comment? (22:28)

Why did the commander become alarmed? (22:29)

Get It

What was at the heart of the controversy between the Jews and the Gentiles?

What causes divisions among Christians?

What divisions do we see in the Christian church today?

Why did Paul support the Jewish leaders?

What rules or traditions should you support for the sake of peace?

*What is the difference between compromising God's will and doing something in order to avoid offending someone?

*How can we decide when we should stand up for our beliefs and when we should give in for the sake of others?

When are Christians often tempted to make a rule or tradition as important as God's written Word?

*Why were the Jews from Asia so angry at Paul?

What groups in our society infuriate each other?

Why are people so protective of their ethnic heritage?

How can Christians help bridge ethnic and racial barriers?

Why was there so much animosity between Jews and Christians at the time of Paul's arrest?

*What groups are particularly anti-Christian today?

What are some ways we can and should defend the truth about our faith?

Why do crowds of people often behave in unpredictable and unreasonable ways?

Why do you think Paul told his own story instead of preaching a sermon?

When is it useful to share your personal experiences with others?

*How did Paul show respect to his audience?

*Why is it important to be kind toward and respectful of others?

How can we show respect to the people around us?

What gave Paul credibility to his audience?

How can a Christian gain credibility with non-Christians?

What are some things you can do to build credibility with your friends and coworkers?

How did Paul rebel against the Lord?

When have you rebelled against the Lord?

How has the Lord's activity in your life surprised you recently?

To what kind of service has God called you?

How does God direct us?

How might you have to endure hardship for the sake of Christ?

How can your nationality be helpful in sharing the message of Christ with others?

What was hard for the Jews to accept?

*What was wrong with the Jewish unwillingness to lead Gentiles to God?

*What people do we tend to exclude from the message of God's grace?

How do we sometimes compromise the Christian faith by clinging to cultural or racial biases?

Why was Paul's Roman citizenship an asset?

How did Paul show good judgment in the middle of an extremely stressful situation?

What about you gives you unique opportunities to talk with others about Christ?

In what ways can we show respect to others even when they treat us disrespectfully?

Apply It

How can you live more by God's grace and less by self-imposed dos and don'ts?

*In what situations will you need to adjust your behavior for the sake of others?

How?

*What "false reports" about Christianity can you help dispel? How?

How can you be a peacemaker this week at work, at home, or in your neighborhood?

*What words, gestures, or practices can you use to show respect in how you speak to others?

With whom can you share your personal story of faith this week?

*For whose salvation will you pray each day this week?

What do you want to remember the next time you have to deal with a difficult person?