

ACTS 22 vs 1

The previous chapter ended with Paul under arrest, he asked the commander, if he could speak to the mob. And when he had given permission, Paul stood on the stairs, and motioned to the people with his hand. **And when there was a great silence, he spoke to them in the Hebrew tongue, saying.**

Paul's arrest in Jerusalem,

¹ Men, brothers, and fathers, hear my defense which I now offer to you.

² (And when they heard that he spoke to them in the Hebrew dialect, they became even more quiet: and he said,)

³ I am a Jew, born in Tarsus of Cilicia, but brought up in this city, educated at the feet of Gamaliel, strictly according to the law of our fathers, being zealous for God, just as you all are today.

⁴ And I persecuted this Way to the death, binding and putting both men and women into prisons,

⁵ as also the high priest and the Council of the elders can testify. From them I also received letters to the brothers, and started off for Damascus, in order to bring even those who were there to Jerusalem, as prisoners to be punished.

⁶ And it happened, that as I made my journey, and approaching Damascus about noon, suddenly a very bright light flashed from heaven all around me,

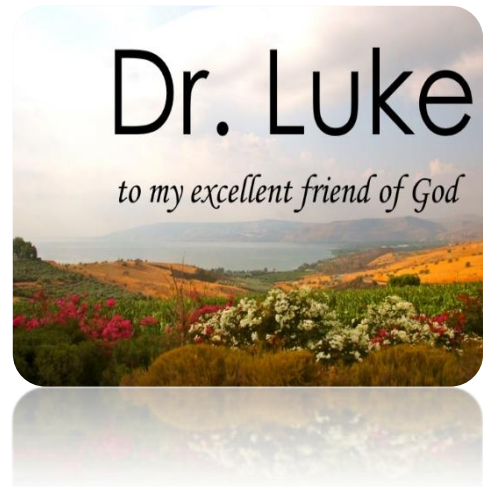
⁷ and I fell to the ground, and heard a voice say to me, Saul, Saul, why do you persecute Me?

⁸ And I answered, Who are you, Lord? And he said to me, I am Jesus of Nazareth, whom you are persecuting.

⁹ And those who were with me indeed saw the light, and were afraid; but did not understand the voice of the One who spoke to me.

¹⁰ And I said, What should I do, Lord? And the Lord said to me, Get up, and go to Damascus; and there you will be told everything that you have been assigned to do.

¹¹ And when I could not see for the glory of that light, being led by the hand of those who were with me, I came to Damascus.



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¹² And a certain Ananias, a devout man according to the law, having a good report of all the Jews who live there,

¹³ came to me, and standing near, said to me, Brother Saul, regain your sight. And that same moment I looked and saw him.

¹⁴ And he said, The God of our fathers has chosen you, that you will know His will, and see that Righteous One, and hear what He says from His mouth.

¹⁵ For you will be His eye-witness to all men of what you have seen and heard.

¹⁶ And now why do you delay? Get up, and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord.

¹⁷ And it happened, that, when I came again to Jerusalem, even while I prayed in the temple, that I fell into a trance;

¹⁸ and I saw Him saying to me, Hurry, and quickly get out of Jerusalem: for they will not receive your testimony concerning Me.

¹⁹ And I said, Lord, they know that in every synagogue, I had those who believed in You imprisoned and beaten:

²⁰ and when the blood of your martyr Stephen was shed, I also stood there, approving his death, and guarded the clothes of those who killed him.

²¹ And He said to me, Go: because I will send you far from here to the Gentiles.

²² And they listened to him to this point, and then they lifted up their voices, and said, Away with this man from the earth: for he should not be allowed to live.

²³ And as they started shouting, and threw off their cloaks, and threw dust into the air,

²⁴ the commander order him to be brought into the barracks, stating that he should be examined by scourging;



that he might know why they were shouting against him that way.

²⁵ And as they bound him with chains, Paul said to the centurion who stood by, **Is it lawful for you to scourge a man who is a Roman, and not condemned?**

²⁶ And when the centurion heard it, he went to the commander and told him, saying, What are you going to do? for this man is a Roman citizen.

²⁷ Then the commander came, and asked him, Tell me, are you a Roman? And he said, Yes.

²⁸ And the commander answered, I acquired this citizenship with a great sum of money for this freedom. And Paul said, But I was born a citizen.

²⁹ So those who were about to examine him, immediately let him go: and the commander also was afraid when he found out that he was a Roman citizen, and he put him in chains.

³⁰ But the next day, since he wanted to know why he was accused by the Jews, he released him, and instructed the chief priests and all their council to assemble, and then brought Paul down, and set him before them.

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