

Paul in Jerusalem
Acts 21:17-chapter 23:24

Paul went to Jerusalem. There some Jews accused him of teaching against Jewish law and of defiling the temple by bringing Gentiles into it. The whole city was in an uproar, and people came running to see what was happening. They were trying to kill Paul, but he was rescued by the Roman soldiers. The crowd was so violent they had to carry Paul to get him away from his enemies.

They stopped on the stairs to the castle and Paul asked to speak to the crowd. With soldiers around him, he began to defend himself. He told of his conversion. They listened for awhile until he said the Lord had sent him to the Gentiles. Then they became violently angry. The commander took him inside and ordered him to be beaten.

They didn't know Paul was a Roman citizen, and Roman citizens were not to be beaten. When he told them of his citizenship, they became fearful of how they had treated him. The commander ordered him to appear before the Jewish Sanhedrin. He caused a division between the Pharisees and the Sadducees by revealing he was a Pharisee and believed in the resurrection of the dead. There was another uproar, and the commander took him to the barracks.

That night the Lord stood near Paul and told him to take courage. He was going to Rome to tell the people there about his faith.

There was a plot to kill Paul, but his nephew learned of it and told the authorities. The commander decided to send him to Governor Felix. To insure his safe arrival, he was accompanied by 200 soldiers, 70 horsemen, and 200 spearmen. They left at 9:00 at night with Paul riding on horseback.

Memory Verse:

As for God his way is perfect; the word of the Lord is flawless. He is a shield for all who take refuge in him.

Second Samuel 22:31 NIV

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