

# PAUL'S TESTIMONY AT JERUSALEM ACTS 21:33-22:30

Text:

Introduction:

## 1. THE DEFENSE OF PAUL (21:33-22:5)

### Acts 21:33-22:5

<sup>33</sup> Then the chief captain came near, and took him, and commanded *him* to be bound with two chains; and demanded who he was, and what he had done. <sup>34</sup> And some cried one thing, some another, among the multitude: and when he could not know the certainty for the tumult, he commanded him to be carried into the castle. <sup>35</sup> And when he came upon the stairs, so it was, that he was borne of the soldiers for the violence of the people. <sup>36</sup> For the multitude of the people followed after, crying, Away with him. <sup>37</sup> And as Paul was to be led into the castle, he said unto the chief captain, May I speak unto thee? Who said, Canst thou speak Greek? <sup>38</sup> Art not thou that Egyptian, which before these days madest an uproar, and leddest out into the wilderness four thousand men that were murderers? <sup>39</sup> But Paul said, I am a man *which am* a Jew of Tarsus, *a city* in Cilicia, a citizen of no mean city: and, I beseech thee, suffer me to speak unto the people. <sup>40</sup> And when he had given him licence, Paul stood on the stairs, and beckoned with the hand unto the people. And when there was made a great silence, he spake unto *them* in the Hebrew tongue, saying, <sup>1</sup> Men, brethren, and fathers, hear ye my defence *which I make* now unto you. <sup>2</sup> (And when they heard that he spake in the Hebrew tongue to them, they kept the more silence: and he saith,)

<sup>3</sup> I am verily a man *which am* a Jew, born in Tarsus, *a city* in Cilicia, yet brought up in this city at the feet of Gamaliel, *and* taught according to the perfect manner of the law of the fathers, and was zealous toward God, as ye all are this day. <sup>4</sup> And I persecuted this way unto the death, binding and delivering into prisons both men and women. <sup>5</sup> As also the high priest doth bear me witness, and all the estate of the elders: from whom also I received letters unto the brethren, and went to Damascus, to bring them which were there bound unto Jerusalem, for to be punished.

A. Explained His Heritage

B. Explained His Persecuting Christians

## **2. THE DECISION OF PAUL (22:6-11)**

### **Acts 22:6-11**

<sup>6</sup> And it came to pass, that, as I made my journey, and was come nigh unto Damascus about noon, suddenly there shone from heaven a great light round about me. <sup>7</sup> And I fell unto the ground, and heard a voice saying unto me, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me? <sup>8</sup> And I answered, Who art thou, Lord? And he said unto me, I am Jesus of Nazareth, whom thou persecutest. <sup>9</sup> And they that were with me saw indeed the light, and were afraid; but they heard not the voice of him that spake to me. <sup>10</sup> And I said, What shall I do, Lord? And the Lord said unto me, Arise, and go into Damascus; and there it shall be told thee of all things which are appointed for thee to do. <sup>11</sup> And when I could not see for the glory of that light, being led by the hand of them that were with me, I came into Damascus.

A. The Lord Came to Paul

B. Paul Turned and Trusted Christ

### 3. THE DISCIPLING OF PAUL (22:12-30)

#### Acts 22:12-30

<sup>12</sup> And one Ananias, a devout man according to the law, having a good report of all the Jews which dwelt *there*, <sup>13</sup> Came unto me, and stood, and said unto me, Brother Saul, receive thy sight. And the same hour I looked up upon him. <sup>14</sup> And he said, The God of our fathers hath chosen thee, that thou shouldest know his will, and see that Just One, and shouldest hear the voice of his mouth. <sup>15</sup> For thou shalt be his witness unto all men of what thou hast seen and heard. <sup>16</sup> And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord. <sup>17</sup> And it came to pass, that, when I was come again to Jerusalem, even while I prayed in the temple, I was in a trance; <sup>18</sup> And saw him saying unto me, Make haste, and get thee quickly out of Jerusalem: for they will not receive thy testimony concerning me. <sup>19</sup> And I said, Lord, they know that I imprisoned and beat in every synagogue them that believed on thee: <sup>20</sup> And when the blood of thy martyr Stephen was shed, I also was standing by, and consenting unto his death, and kept the raiment of them that slew him. <sup>21</sup> And he said unto me, Depart: for I will send thee far hence unto the Gentiles. <sup>22</sup> And they gave him audience unto this word, and *then* lifted up their voices, and said, Away with such a *fellow* from the earth: for it is not fit that he should live. <sup>23</sup> And as they cried out, and cast off *their* clothes, and threw dust into the air, <sup>24</sup> The chief captain commanded him to be brought into the castle, and bade that he should be examined by scourging; that he might know wherefore they cried so against him. <sup>25</sup> And as they bound him with thongs, Paul said unto the centurion that stood by, Is it lawful for you to scourge a man that is a Roman, and uncondemned? <sup>26</sup> When the centurion heard *that*, he went and told the chief captain, saying, Take heed what thou doest: for this man is a Roman. <sup>27</sup> Then the chief captain came, and said unto him, Tell me, art thou a Roman? He said, Yea. <sup>28</sup> And the chief captain answered, With a great sum obtained I this freedom. And Paul said, But I was *free* born. <sup>29</sup> Then straightway they departed from him which should have

examined him: and the chief captain also was afraid, after he knew that he was a Roman, and because he had bound him. <sup>30</sup> On the morrow, because he would have known the certainty wherefore he was accused of the Jews, he loosed him from *his* bands, and commanded the chief priests and all their council to appear, and brought Paul down, and set him before them.

#### A. God Sent Ananias

#### B. Ananias Brought Assurance

1. God had prepared this event
2. God has a plan for our lives
3. God has a pattern for us to follow