

Acts 23:12 And when it was day, certain of the Jews banded together, and bound themselves under a curse, saying that they would neither eat nor drink till they had killed Paul. 13 And they were more than forty which had made this conspiracy.

<u>14</u> And they came to the chief priests and elders, and said, We have bound ourselves under a great curse, that we will eat nothing until we have slain Paul.

<u>15</u> Now therefore ye with the council signify to the chief captain that he bring him down unto you to morrow, as though ye would enquire something more perfectly concerning him: and we, or ever he come near, are ready to kill him.

<u>16</u> And when Paul's sister's son heard of their lying in wait, he went and entered into the castle, and told Paul. <u>17</u> Then Paul called one of the centurions unto *him*, and said, Bring this young man unto the chief captain: for he hath a certain thing to tell him. 18 So he took him, and brought him to the chief captain, and said, Paul the prisoner called me unto him, and prayed me to bring this young man unto thee, who hath something to say unto thee. 19 Then the chief captain took him by the hand, and went with him aside privately, and asked him, What is that thou hast to tell me? 20 And he said, The Jews have agreed to desire thee that thou wouldest bring down Paul to morrow into the council, as though they would enquire somewhat of him more perfectly. 21 But do not thou yield unto them: for there lie in wait for him of them more than forty men, which have bound themselves with an oath, that they will neither eat nor drink till they have killed him: and now are they ready, looking for a promise from thee.

<u>22</u> So the chief captain *then* let the young man depart, and charged *him, See thou* tell no man that thou hast shewed these things to me.

23 And he called unto him two centurions, saying, Make ready two hundred soldiers to go to Caesarea, and horsemen threescore and ten, and spearmen two hundred, at the third hour of the night;

24 And provide *them* beasts, that they may set Paul on, and bring *him* safe unto Felix the governor.

25 And he wrote a letter after this manner:

<u>26</u> Claudius Lysias unto the most excellent governor Felix *sendeth* greeting.

<u>27</u> This man was taken of the Jews, and should have been killed of them: then came I with an army, and rescued him, having understood that he was a Roman.

28 And when I would have known the cause wherefore they accused him, I brought him forth into their council:

29 Whom I perceived to be accused of questions of their law, but to have nothing laid to his charge worthy of death or of bonds.

<u>30</u> And when it was told me how that the Jews laid wait for the man, I sent straightway to thee, and gave commandment to his accusers also to say before thee what *they had* against him. Farewell.

31 Then the soldiers, as it was commanded them, took Paul, and brought *him* by night to Antipatris.

<u>32</u> On the morrow they left the horsemen to go with him, and returned to the castle:

33 Who, when they came to Caesarea, and delivered the epistle to the governor, presented Paul also before him.

<u>34</u> And when the governor had read *the letter*, he asked of what province he was. And when he understood that *he was* of Cilicia; <u>35</u> I will hear thee, said he, when thine accusers are also come. And he commanded him to be kept in Herod's judgment hall.

I. <u>THE ORGANIZATION</u> II. <u>THE OPERATION</u> III. <u>THE OPERATIVES: THE FOUNDING EMPHASIS – SIMON,</u> IV. <u>THE OPERATIVES: THE FORWARDING EMPHASIS – STEPHEN,</u> V. <u>THE OPERATIVES: THE FOUNDATIONAL EMPHASIS – SAUL/PAUL THE</u> <u>PIONEER, 13:1-21:26</u> VI. THE OPERATIVES: THE FOUNDATIONAL EMPHASIS – SAUL/PAUL THE <u>PRISONER, 21:27-28:31</u>

(Section 1 – Paul's Treatment as a Prisoner, 21:27-23:37) A. Rescued from the Temple, 21:27-39 B. Rescued from the Turmoil, 21:40-22:30 C. Rescued from the Trial, 23:1-11 1. Paul's Fiery Spirit, 23:1-5 a. The High Priest's Bad Temper, 23:1-3 (1) He was Angered by Paul, 23:1-2 (2) He was Answered by Paul, 23:3 b. The High Priest's Bad Testimony, 23:4-5 2. Paul's Fleshly Strategy, 23:6-10a

a. The Rift, 23:6
b. The Reaction, 23:7-8
(1) The Two Parties, 23:7
(2) The Two Positions, 23:8
c. The Riot, 23:9-10a

3. Paul's Future Service, 23:10b-11

a. Saved by the Soldiers, 23:10b
b. Strengthened by the Savior, 23:11

Paul was warned not to go to Jerusalem, found himself in the middle of a riot, faced a trial, and now, needed to be rescued, again, from Jewish conspirators. Getting out of God's perfect will has dire consequences.

Rom. 1:10 Making request, if by any means now at length I might have a prosperous journey by the will of God to come unto you.

Acts 19:21 After these things were ended, Paul purposed in the spirit, when he had passed through Macedonia and Achaia, to go to Jerusalem, saying, After I have been there, I must also see Rome.

<u>Acts 24:27</u> But after two years Porcius Festus came into Felix' room: and Felix, willing to shew the Jews a pleasure, left Paul bound.

D. Rescued from the Terrorists, 23:12-35

1. The Decision of the Conspirators, 23:12-22

a. How the Plot was Formed, 23:12-15

(1) The Radicals, 23:12-13

Acts 23:12 And when it was day, certain of the Jews banded together, and bound themselves under a curse, saying that they would neither eat nor drink till they had killed Paul. 13 And they were more than forty which had made this conspiracy.

### (2) The Rulers, 23:14

Acts 23:14 And they came to the chief priests and elders, and said, We have bound ourselves under a great curse, that we will eat nothing until we have slain Paul.

## (3) The Ruse, 23:15

<u>Acts 23:15</u> Now therefore ye with the council signify to the chief captain that he bring him down unto you to morrow, as though ye would enquire something more perfectly concerning him: and we, or ever he come near, are ready to kill him.

b. How the Plot was Foiled, 23:16-22

(1) It Was Reported to the Apostle, 23:16

Acts 23:16 And when Paul's sister's son heard of their lying in wait, he went and entered into the castle, and told Paul.

(2) It Was Repeated to the Authorities, 23:17-22

(a) How Paul's Nephew Was Taken to the Captain, 23:17-18

Acts 23:17 Then Paul called one of the centurions unto *him*, and said, Bring this young man unto the chief captain: for he hath a certain thing to tell him.

<u>18</u> So he took him, and brought *him* to the chief captain, and said, Paul the prisoner called me unto *him*, and prayed me to bring this young man unto thee, who hath something to say unto thee. (b) How Paul's Nephew Was Treated by the Captain, 23:19-21

<u>Acts 23:19</u> Then the chief captain took him by the hand, and went with him aside privately, and asked him, What is that thou hast to tell me?

20 And he said, The Jews have agreed to desire thee that thou wouldest bring down Paul to morrow into the council, as though they would enquire somewhat of him more perfectly.
21 But do not thou yield unto them: for there lie in wait for him of them more than forty men, which have bound themselves with an oath, that they will neither eat nor drink till they have killed him: and now are they ready, looking for a promise from thee.

(c) How Paul's Nephew Was Trusted by the Captain, 23:22

Acts 23:22 So the chief captain *then* let the young man depart, and charged *him, See thou* tell no man that thou hast shewed these things to me. 2. The Decision of the Captain, 23:23-35

a. Paul Dispatched to Caesarea, 23:23-30

(1) The Full Escort, 23:23-24

Acts 23:23 And he called unto *him* two centurions, saying, Make ready two hundred soldiers to go to Caesarea, and horsemen threescore and ten, and spearmen two hundred, at the third hour of the night; 24 And provide *them* beasts, that they may set Paul on, and bring

him safe unto Felix the governor.

(2) The Fair Epistle, 23:25-30

## (a) How the Captain Explained the Recent Proceedings, 23:25-28

Acts 23:25 And he wrote a letter after this manner:

<u>26</u> Claudius Lysias unto the most excellent governor Felix sendeth greeting.

27 This man was taken of the Jews, and should have been killed of them: then came I with an army, and rescued him, having understood that he was a Roman.

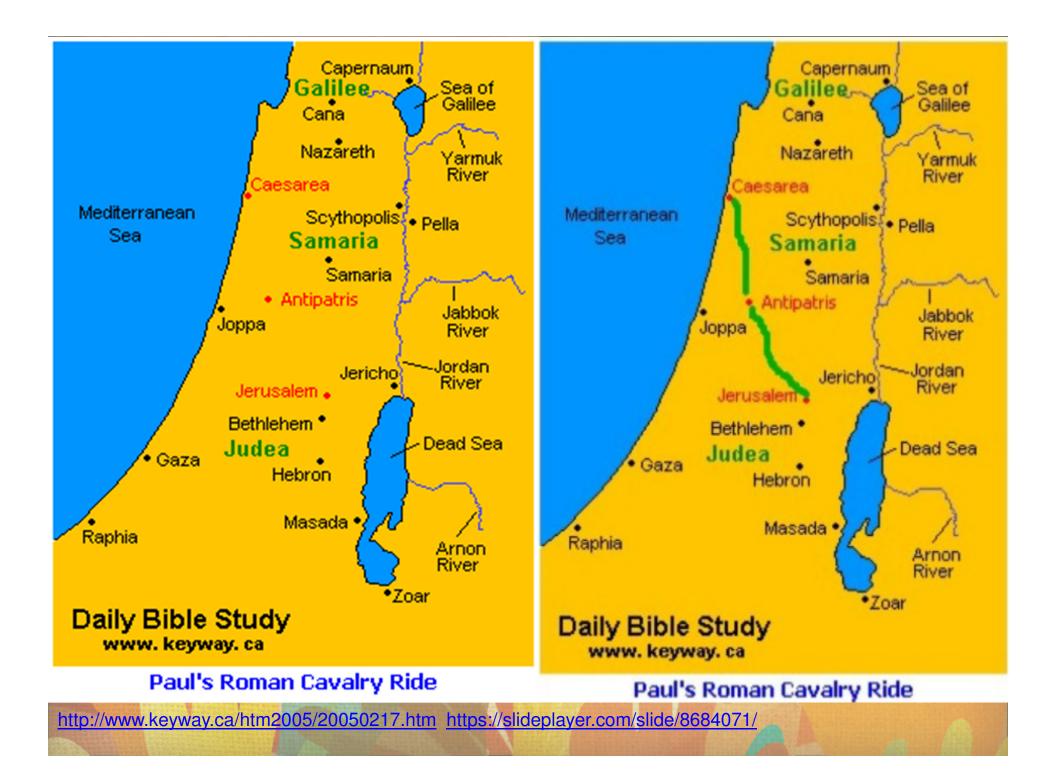
28 And when I would have known the cause wherefore they accused him, I brought him forth into their council:

(b) How the Captain Exonerated the Rescued Prisoner, 23:29-30

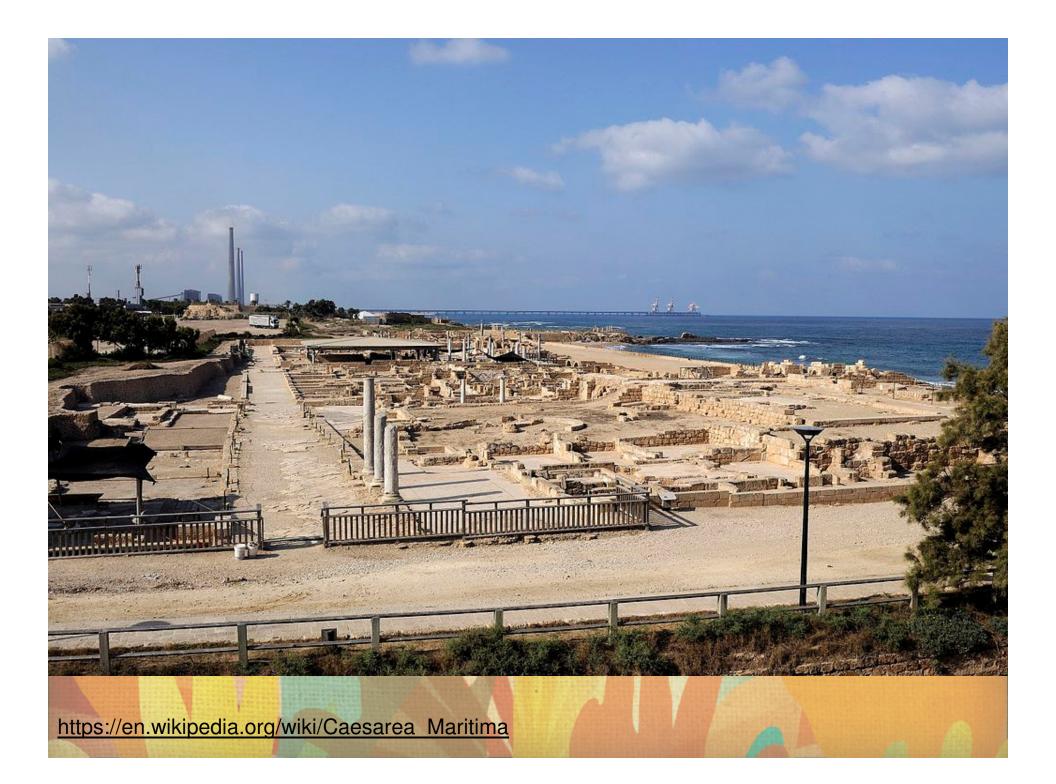
Acts 23:29 Whom I perceived to be accused of questions of their law, but to have nothing laid to his charge worthy of death or of bonds. 30 And when it was told me how that the Jews laid wait for the man, I sent straightway to thee, and gave commandment to his accusers also to say before thee what *they had* against him. Farewell. b. Paul Detained at Caesarea, 23:31-35

(1) The Journey, 23:31-33

<u>Acts 23:31</u> Then the soldiers, as it was commanded them, took
Paul, and brought *him* by night to Antipatris.
<u>32</u> On the morrow they left the horsemen to go with him, and returned to the castle:
<u>33</u> Who, when they came to Caesarea, and delivered the epistle to the governor, presented Paul also before him.







# (2) The Judge, 23:34-35

<u>Acts 23:34</u> And when the governor had read *the letter*, he asked of what province he was. And when he understood that *he was* of Cilicia;

35 I will hear thee, said he, when thine accusers are also come. And he commanded him to be kept in Herod's judgment hall.

#### **Conclusion**

Deut. 33:25 "...and as thy days, *so shall* thy strength *be*. <u>26</u> *There is* **none like unto the God of Jeshurun**, *who* rideth upon the heaven in thy help, and in his excellency on the sky. <u>27</u> **The eternal God** *is thy* **refuge**, and underneath *are* the everlasting arms..."