

Acts 25:13 And after certain days king Agrippa and Bernice came unto Caesarea to salute Festus.

- I. THE ORGANIZATION
- II. THE OPERATION
- III. THE OPERATIVES: THE FOUNDING EMPHASIS SIMON,
- IV. THE OPERATIVES: THE FORWARDING EMPHASIS STEPHEN,
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PIONEER, 13:1-21:26

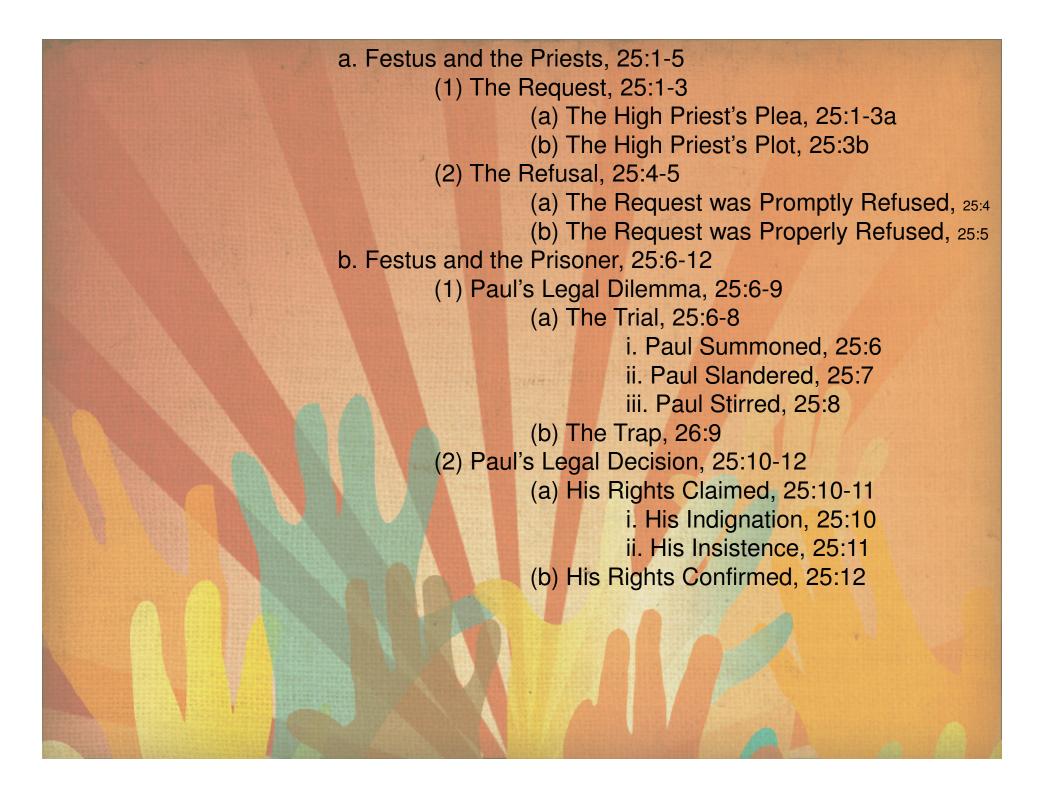
VI. THE OPERATIVES: THE FOUNDATIONAL EMPHASIS – SAUL/PAUL THE PRISONER, 21:27-28:31

(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
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- A. The Public Trials, 24:1—25:22
 - 1. Before Felix, 24:1-27
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Life for everyone has its ups and downs, blessings and challenges, but when something is very personal to us, we have a natural tendency to develop "tunnel vision," only seeing things from our own, very narrow, perspective.

In slang, if someone says that someone has "tunnel vision" then they mean that the person is looking at things from a very narrow perspective, and is not seeing or aware of all the facts. That is why it's called *tunnel* vision, because a tunnel is, of course, narrow. https://www.programmerinterview.com/index.php/american-vocabulary/what-is-tunnel-vision-in-slang/amp/

What is your biggest challenge at the moment? How does it compare to what the Apostle Paul is facing? He is on trial for his life.

1 Cor. 10:13 There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God *is* faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear *it*.

The Holy Spirit has given us several chapters in the book of Acts about the public trials in Paul's life. Let's examine this passage and try to glean the lessons for us to learn.

c. Festus and the Prince, 25:13-22

(1) A Very Pleasant Person, 25:13-14a

Acts 25:13 "And after certain days king Agrippa and Bernice came unto Caesarea to salute Festus.

14 And when they had been there many days, Festus declared Paul's cause unto the king..."

(2) A Very Plausible Person, 25:14b-19

(a) His Views About Justice, 25:14b-16 "...saying, There is a certain man left in bonds by Felix: 15 About whom, when I was at Jerusalem, the chief priests and the elders of the Jews informed me, desiring to have judgment against him. 16 To whom I answered, It is not the manner of the Romans to deliver any man to die, before that he which is accused have the accusers face to face, and have licence to answer for himself concerning the crime laid against him."

(b) His Views About Judaism, 25:17-19a

Acts 25:17 "Therefore, when they were come hither, without any delay on the morrow I sat on the judgment seat, and commanded the man to be brought forth.

18 Against whom when the accusers stood up, they brought none accusation of such things as I supposed:

19 But had certain questions against him of their own superstition..."

Original Word: δεισιδαιμονία

Transliteration: deisidaimonia

Usage: religion in general; in a bad sense: superstition.

deisidaimonía – properly, dread of a pagan deity "inspiring" a "token show of respect" (religious gesture) – especially religious-superstition (Souter);

https://biblehub.com/greek/1175.htm

- (c) His Views About Jesus, 25:19b "...and of one Jesus, which was dead, whom Paul affirmed to be alive."
- (3) A Very Perplexed Person, 25:20-21
 - (a) He Had Bowed to the Clamor of the Religious Court, 25:20

Acts 25:20 And because I doubted of such manner of questions, I asked *him* whether he would go to Jerusalem, and there be judged of these matters.

(b) He Had Bowed to the Claims of the Royal Court, 25:21

Acts 25:21 But when Paul had appealed to be reserved unto the hearing of Augustus, I commanded him to be kept till I might send him to Caesar.

(4) A Very Pleased Person, 25:22

Acts 25:22 Then Agrippa said unto Festus, I would also hear the man myself. To morrow, said he, thou shalt hear him.

- B. The Private Trial, 25:23—26:32
 - 1. How the Court was Convened, 25:23-27

a. Its Pomp, 25:23

Acts 25:23 And on the morrow, when Agrippa was come, and Bernice, with great pomp, and was entered into the place of hearing, with the chief captains, and principal men of the city, at Festus' commandment Paul was brought forth.

Original Word: φαντασία **Transliteration:** phantasia

Usage: show, display, pomp, imagination.

https://biblehub.com/greek/5325.htm

b. Its President, 25:24-27

(1) A Serious Local Problem, 25:24

Acts 25:24 And Festus said, King Agrippa, and all men which are here present with us, ye see this man, about whom all the multitude of the Jews have dealt with me, both at Jerusalem, and also here, crying that he ought not to live any longer.

(2) A Serious Legal Problem, 25:25

Acts 25:25 But when I found that he had committed nothing worthy of death, and that he himself hath appealed to Augustus, I have determined to send him.



Acts 25:26 Of whom I have no certain thing to write unto my lord. Wherefore I have brought him forth before you, and specially before thee, O king Agrippa, that, after examination had, I might have somewhat to write.

27 For it seemeth to me unreasonable to send a prisoner, and not withal to signify the crimes *laid* against him.



Conclusion

Col. 4:3 Withal praying also for us, that God would open unto us a door of utterance, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in bonds:

1 Cor. 16:9 For a great door and effectual is opened unto me, and there are many adversaries.

Acts 9:15 But the Lord said unto him, Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel:

Acts 1:8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

Acts 4:31 And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.

32 And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any of them that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common.

33 And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all.