

Acts 28:17 And it came to pass, that after three days Paul called the chief of the Jews together: and when they were come together, he said unto them, Men *and* brethren, though I have committed nothing against the people, or customs of our fathers, yet was I delivered prisoner from Jerusalem into the hands of the Romans.

- <u>18</u> Who, when they had examined me, would have let *me* go, because there was no cause of death in me.
- <u>19</u> But when the Jews spake against *it*, I was constrained to appeal unto Caesar; not that I had ought to accuse my nation of.
- <u>20</u> For this cause therefore have I called for you, to see *you*, and to speak with *you*: because that for the hope of Israel I am bound with this chain.

21 And they said unto him, We neither received letters out of Judaea concerning thee, neither any of the brethren that came shewed or spake any harm of thee.

22 But we desire to hear of thee what thou thinkest: for as concerning this sect, we know that every where it is spoken against.

23 And when they had appointed him a day, there came many to him into *his* lodging; to whom he expounded and testified the kingdom of God, persuading them concerning Jesus, both out of the law of Moses, and *out of* the prophets, from morning till evening.

24 And some believed the things which were spoken, and some believed not. 25 And when they agreed not among themselves, they departed, after that Paul had spoken one word, Well spake the Holy Ghost by Esaias the prophet unto our fathers,

<u>26</u> Saying, Go unto this people, and say, Hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and not perceive:

<u>27</u> For the heart of this people is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes have they closed; lest they should see with *their* eyes, and hear with *their* ears, and understand with *their* heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them.

28 Be it known therefore unto you, that the salvation of God is sent unto the Gentiles, and *that* they will hear it.

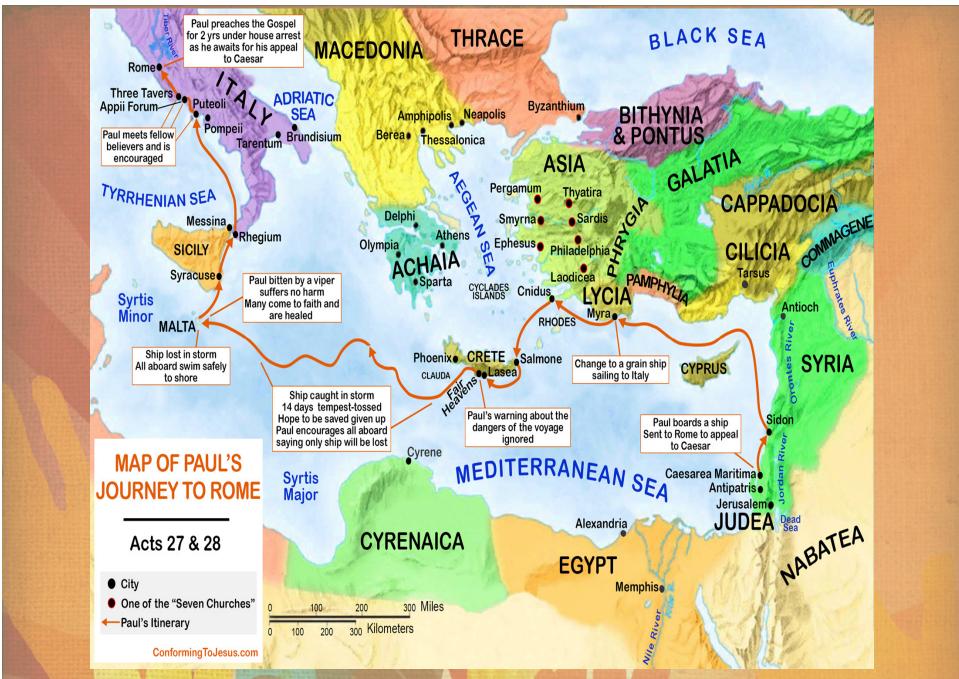
29 And when he had said these words, the Jews departed, and had great reasoning among themselves.

<u>30</u> And Paul dwelt two whole years in his own hired house, and received all that came in unto him,

<u>31</u> Preaching the kingdom of God, and teaching those things which concern the Lord Jesus Christ, with all confidence, no man forbidding him.

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b. As to Paul's Detention in Rome, 28:17-31

(1) The Desire for the Jewish Meetings, 28:17-22

(a) Paul's Desire to Meet with the Jews, 28:17-21

i. Their Coming to Paul, 28:17-20

- Paul Recounts His History to Them 28:17-19
 - He Had Been Falsely Accused, 28:17

Acts 28:17 And it came to pass, that after three days Paul called the chief of the Jews together: and when they were come together, he said unto them, Men *and* brethren, though I have committed nothing against the people, or customs of our fathers, yet was I delivered prisoner from Jerusalem into the hands of the Romans. He Had Been Formally Acquitted, 28:18

Acts 28:18 Who, when they had examined me, would have let me go, because there was no cause of death in me.

• He Had Been Further Arraigned, 28:19

<u>Acts 28:19</u> But when the Jews spake against *it*, I was constrained to appeal unto Caesar; not that I had ought to accuse my nation of.

Paul Reveals His Hope to Them, 28:20

<u>Acts 28:20</u> For this cause therefore have I called for you, to see *you*, and to speak with *you*: because that for the hope of Israel I am bound with this chain.

<u>Acts 23:6</u> But when Paul perceived that the one part were Sadducees, and the other Pharisees, he cried out in the council, Men *and* brethren, I am a Pharisee, the son of a Pharisee: of the hope and resurrection of the dead I am called in question.

<u>Acts 24:21</u> Except it be for this one voice, that I cried standing among them, Touching the resurrection of the dead I am called in question by you this day.

Acts 26:6 And now I stand and am judged for the hope of the promise made of God unto our fathers: 7 Unto which promise our twelve tribes, instantly serving God day and night, hope to come. For which hope's sake, king Agrippa, I am accused of the Jews. 8 Why should it be thought a thing incredible with you, that God should raise the dead?

ii. Their Comment to Paul, 28:21

<u>Acts 28:21</u> And they said unto him, We neither received letters out of Judaea concerning thee, neither any of the brethren that came shewed or spake any harm of thee.

(b) The Jew's Desire to Meet with Paul, 28:22

<u>Acts 28:22</u> But we desire to hear of thee what thou thinkest: for as concerning this sect, we know that every where it is spoken against.

(2) The Darkness of the Jewish Mind, 28:23-31

(a) The Discourse, 28:23

<u>Acts 28:23</u> And when they had appointed him a day, there came many to him into *his* lodging; to whom he expounded and testified the kingdom of God, persuading them concerning Jesus, both out of the law of Moses, and *out of* the prophets, from morning till evening.

(b) The Division, 28:24

Acts 28:24 And some believed the things which were spoken, and some believed not.

Acts 13:46 Then Paul and Barnabas waxed bold, and said, It was necessary that the word of God should first have been spoken to you: but seeing ye put it from you, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, Io, we turn to the Gentiles.

<u>Acts 18:6</u> And when they opposed themselves, and blasphemed, he shook *his* raiment, and said unto them, Your blood *be* upon your own heads; I *am* clean: from henceforth I will go unto the Gentiles. Rom. 11:7 What then? Israel hath not obtained that which he seeketh for; but the election hath obtained it, and the rest were blinded

8 (According as it is written, God hath given them the spirit of slumber, eyes that they should not see, and ears that they should not hear;) unto this day.

<u>9</u> And David saith, Let their table be made a snare, and a trap, and a stumblingblock, and a recompence unto them:
<u>10</u> Let their eyes be darkened, that they may not see, and bow down their back alway.

(c) The Denunciation, 28:25-31

i. The Final Rejection of the Truth by the Hebrews, 28:25-27

Acts 28:25 And when they agreed not among themselves, they departed, after that Paul had spoken one word, Well spake the Holy Ghost by Esaias the prophet unto our fathers, 26 Saying, Go unto this people, and say, Hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and not perceive:

<u>27</u> For the heart of this people is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes have they closed; lest they should see with *their* eyes, and hear with *their* ears, and understand with *their* heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them.

<u>Isa. 6:9</u> And he said, Go, and tell this people, Hear ye indeed, but understand not; and see ye indeed, but perceive not. <u>10</u> Make the heart of this people fat, and make their ears heavy, and shut their eyes; lest they see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and convert, and be healed. <u>Mt. 13:14</u> And in them is fulfilled the prophecy of Esaias, which saith, By hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and shall not perceive:

<u>15</u> For this people's heart is waxed gross, and *their* ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with *their* eyes, and hear with *their* ears, and should understand with *their* heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them.

<u>Mark 4:12</u> That seeing they may see, and not perceive; and hearing they may hear, and not understand; lest at any time they should be converted, and *their* sins should be forgiven them.

Luke 8:10 And he said, Unto you it is given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God: but to others in parables; that seeing they might not see, and hearing they might not understand.

Jn. 12:40 He hath blinded their eyes, and hardened their heart; that they should not see with *their* eyes, nor understand with *their* heart, and be converted, and I should heal them.

41 These things said Esaias, when he saw his glory, and spake of him.

ii. The Future Reception of the Truth by the Heathen, 28:28-31

The Fact Declared, 28:28

Acts 28:28 Be it known therefore unto you, that the salvation of God is sent unto the Gentiles, and *that* they will hear it.

Acts 13:46 Then Paul and Barnabas waxed bold, and said, It was necessary that the word of God should first have been spoken to you: but seeing ye put it from you, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, Io, we turn to the Gentiles.

<u>47</u> For so hath the Lord commanded us, *saying*, I have set thee to be a light of the Gentiles, that thou shouldest be for salvation unto the ends of the earth.

<u>48</u> And when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad, and glorified the word of the Lord: and as many as were ordained to eternal life believed.

<u>49</u> And the word of the Lord was published throughout all the region.

50 But the Jews stirred up the devout and honourable women,
and the chief men of the city, and raised persecution against Paul
and Barnabas, and expelled them out of their coasts.
51 But they shook off the dust of their feet against them, and

came unto Iconium.

52 And the disciples were filled with joy, and with the Holy Ghost.

<u>Acts 18:6</u> And when they opposed themselves, and blasphemed, he shook *his* raiment, and said unto them, Your blood *be* upon your own heads; I *am* clean: from henceforth I will go unto the Gentiles.

Rom. 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

The Fact Discussed, 28:29

Acts 28:29 And when he had said these words, the Jews departed, and had great reasoning among themselves.

- The Fact Demonstrated, 28:30-31
 - Paul's Continuing Imprisonment, 28:30a "And Paul dwelt two whole years in his own hired house..."
 - Paul's Continuing Impact, 28:30b-31 "...and received all that came in unto him, <u>31</u> Preaching the kingdom of God, and teaching those things which concern the Lord Jesus Christ, with all confidence, no man forbidding him."

Conclusion

Rom. 11:19 Thou wilt say then, The branches were broken off, that I might be graffed in.

<u>20</u> Well; because of unbelief they were broken off, and thou standest by faith. Be not highminded, but fear:
<u>21</u> For if God spared not the natural branches, *take heed* lest he also spare not thee.

<u>22</u> Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God: on them which fell, severity; but toward thee, goodness, if thou continue in *his* goodness: otherwise thou also shalt be cut off.

23 And they also, if they abide not still in unbelief, shall be graffed in: for God is able to graff them in again.

<u>24</u> For if thou wert cut out of the olive tree which is wild by nature, and wert graffed contrary to nature into a good olive tree: how much more shall these, which be the natural *branches*, be graffed into their own olive tree? <u>25</u> For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that **blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in**.

<u>26</u> And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, **There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer**, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob: