



# WORK OF THE SPIRIT

## Acts Chapters 21 and 22

Lesson 18

### FIRST DAY: Review and Overview

1. What spoke to you in the lesson or lecture from Acts 20?
  
2. Many people are hindered from doing the will of God because of the personal sacrifice it requires. Paul, the apostle, was not of this disposition. In Philippians 1:21 he wrote, *For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain.* Not only was Paul's life fully dedicated to serving Jesus, he considered death to be an advancement to glory. It was this attitude that propelled Paul to persevere through threats, perils, persecution, and hostile opposition. Paul was determined to preach the Gospel that had transformed his life. Capture the power of Paul's conviction as you study Acts Chapters 21 and 22. Give a title for each section below:
  - a. Acts 21:1-17
  
  - b. Acts 21:18-40
  
  - c. Acts 22:1-21
  
  - d. Acts 22:22-30
  
3. In order not to miss anything God has for you in the study this week, take time to pray, presenting every obstacle to God.

*The will of the Lord be done.*

Acts 21:14b

**SECOND DAY:** Read Acts 21:1-17

1. Following Paul's time with the Ephesian elders he continued his journey to Jerusalem. Read Acts 21:1-9 to note and comment on his journey:
  - a. Paul's sea voyage (verses 1-3)
  - b. Paul's time in Tyre (verses 4-6)
  - c. Paul's visit to Ptolemais and Caesarea (verses 7-9)
    - (1) Recall that Philip was an instrumental figure in the early Church. How do you see the Spirit continuing to work through Philip's life? See also Joel 2:28.
2. What prophetic message did a certain *prophet named Agabus* give? Acts 21:10-11
3. How did the believers react when they *heard these things*? Acts 21:12
  - a. What was Paul's response? Acts 21:13
    - (1) What does this convey to you about Paul? See also Acts 20:24.
4. Use Acts 21:14 to record the response of Paul's companions.
  - a. Link this with Luke 22:42 to comment on this.
5. From Acts 21:15-16 cite the activity of Paul and his companions.
6. Compare the way *the brethren* received Paul in Acts 21:17 with his first introduction to them in Acts 9:26. What changed?
7. Share a way Paul's mindset speaks to you.

**THIRD DAY:** Read Acts 21:18–40

1. The day after Paul and his companions arrived, they went to see *James and all the elders* in Jerusalem (Acts 21:18). Use Acts 21:19–20a to comment on their meeting.
  
2. In Acts 21:20b–22 the *elders* informed Paul of rumors that he was teaching the Jews living *among the Gentiles* to *forsake* all Jewish *customs*. What solution did they offer to dispel these rumors? Acts 21:23–24
  - a. However, what did they require *concerning the Gentiles*? Acts 21:25
  
3. How did Paul respond to their suggestion? Acts 21:26
  - a. What does this suggest to you about Paul? See also 1 Corinthians 9:19–23.
  
4. *The Jews from Asia* saw Paul in the temple and *stirred up the whole crowd* against him (Acts 21:27). According to Acts 21:28–29, what did they assume?
  
5. Summarize the dramatic scene in Acts 21:30–36.
  
6. As Paul was being *led* away, he asked to speak to the *commander* (Acts 21:37). Who did the *commander* mistake Paul for? Acts 21:38
  - a. How did Paul reply? Acts 21:39
  
  - b. What happened as a result? Acts 21:40
  
7. How do you see the Holy Spirit's preparation of Paul for these events?

**FOURTH DAY:** Read Acts 22:1-21

1. In Acts 22:1-2 Paul began his *defense* before the Jews. Read Romans 9:1-5 to understand and comment on why this was a meaningful opportunity for Paul.
  
2. Use Paul's *defense* from Acts 22:3-21 to answer the following questions about:
  - a. **his heritage** - Acts 22:3
    - (1) Where was Paul brought up? (verse 3)
    - (2) How was Paul brought up? (verse 3)
  
  - b. **his antagonism toward the church** - Acts 22:4-5
    - (1) What had Paul done against *the Way*? (verse 4)
  
    - (2) What authority did Paul have? (verse 5)
  
  - c. **his conversion** - Acts 22:6-11
    - (1) What did Paul see and hear? (verses 6-8)
  
    - (2) What did Paul's companions experience? (verse 9)
  
    - (3) What was Paul instructed to do? (verses 10-11)
  
  - d. **his encounter with Ananias** - Acts 22:12-16
    - (1) Who was Ananias? (verse 12)
  
    - (2) What did he say? (verse 13)
  
    - (3) What did he state was God's plan for Paul? (verses 14-15)
  
    - (4) What did he tell Paul to do? (verse 16)
  
  - e. **his dialogue with the Lord** - Acts 22:17-21
    - (1) Where and how did God speak to him? (verse 17)
  
    - (2) What did the Jews in Jerusalem *know* about Paul? (verses 19-20)
  
    - (3) What was Jesus' instruction to Paul? (verses 18, 21)

3. Instead of a sermon, Paul gave his testimony. Why do you think he did this?
  - a. How does this encourage you?
  - b. What aspect of your testimony do you feel might minister to someone?

**FIFTH DAY:** Read Acts 22:22–30

1. Use Acts 22:21–22 to comment on the *word* that strongly provoked the Jews.
2. From Acts 22:22–23 capture and note the intensity of the Jews' emotions.
3. Comment on Paul's rescue. Acts 22:24
  - a. As Paul was *bound*, what did he ask? (verse 25)
  - b. What warning did the *centurion* give? (verse 26)
    - (1) Why do you think Paul waited until this moment to reveal his Roman citizenship?
4. From Acts 22:27–28 summarize the dialogue between Paul and the *commander*.
5. What do you find noteworthy about the outcome of this situation? Acts 22:29–30
6. What do you find remarkable about Paul throughout this ordeal?

## SIXTH DAY: Review

1. Find the following locations on the map below to highlight and trace Paul's third missionary journey:
  - a. regions of Galatia and Phrygia (Acts 18:23)
  - b. Ephesus (Acts 19:1)
  - c. region of Macedonia (Acts 20:1)
  - d. Greece (Acts 20:2)
  - e. Philippi and Troas (Acts 20:6)
  - f. Assos (Acts 20:13)
  - g. Mitylene (Acts 20:14)
  - h. Samos, Trogylium, & Miletus (Acts 20:15)
  - i. Cos, Rhodes, & Patara (Acts 21:1)
  - j. Tyre (Acts 21:3)
  - k. Ptolemais and Caesarea (Acts 21:7-8)
  - l. Jerusalem (Acts 22:17)



2. From your study this week, what impresses you most about Paul?

*For you will be His witness to all men of what you have seen and heard.*  
Acts 22:15