

Lesson Fourteen (February 17, 2016)
Acts 21 (we will stay in Acts till we finish the book)

Text: Acts 21

Questions:

1. Why does Luke, the historian, give such detail about the journey in 21:1-3?
2. Explain 21:4 about “through the Spirit they were telling Paul not to go to Jerusalem” because it looks like Paul went on to Jerusalem (21:17).
 - a. Was Paul disobedient to the Spirit?
3. What do you make of 21:5-6?
4. Drop down to 21:8.
 - a. Who is this Philip?
 - b. What is his connection with Paul (Saul at the time)?
 - c. Who did Saul consent to killing?
 - d. Was he one of the 7 along with Phillip?
 - e. How would Phillip feel about having his friend’s murderer staying in his house with his 4 unmarried daughters?
 - f. What is this an example of -- something God does of us when we repent but we often struggle to do with each other.....
5. Explain what the prophet Agabus does to Paul in 21:10-11.
6. What reaction does this create in Luke and the others per 21:12?
7. Paul responds how in 21:13.
8. Explain whether 21:14 is appropriate for Paul’s companions and for us today.
9. Jerusalem starts off fine -- in 21:17-18 who does Paul meet?
10. Paul tells them of his ministry with the Gentiles in 21:19 and the Jewish (most likely) brethren in Jerusalem react how towards God (21:20)?
11. But . . . trouble begins. Continuing in 21:20, how many Jewish Christians are there in Jerusalem who are “zealous” for the old law?
12. The word on the street is Paul tells the Jews to stop doing what (21:21)?

13. What's the problem per 21:22?
14. The Jerusalem brethren propose a solution starting in 21:23. We don't have any verbal response by Paul so let's focus on what the brethren propose.
 - a. The four men are under a _____.
 - i. What kind?
 - ii. Does it matter?
 - b. The brethren want Paul to pay for what (21:24)?
 - i. Why?
 - ii. This will lead others to believe what?
 1. Is this true or false? Explain
 - c. That was for the Jewish Christians, but what about the Gentile Christians?
 - i. 21:25 reminds us of what?
 - d. What does Paul do in 21:26?
 - i. Why?
15. Jews found Paul -- of course there were a lot of Jews in Jerusalem -- which Jews found Paul (21:27).
 - a. Should we expect enemies of the Gospel to be lazy?
 - b. Surprised when they are zealous?
16. What are the two accusations against Paul in 21:28?
 - a. Teaching?
 - i. True?
 - b. Physically doing something in the Temple?
 - i. True?
17. Learning about the problem with assumptions, what did the Jews assume to be true but was actually false (21:29).
 - a. (This lesson is also hammered home in John 9 -- major false assumption was what about someone born blind?)
18. How effective in getting the people angry against Paul (21:30)?
19. What did they intend to do to Paul (21:31)?
 - a. Who found out about the disturbance?
20. How quickly did the tribune act (21:32)?
 - a. What were the people doing to Paul when the soldiers arrived?

21. Put yourself in the place of the tribune -- you see a mob (including religious leaders) beating a man. What would you assume?
 - a. What did he do and say (21:33)?
 - b. What response from the crowd (21:34)?
 - c. Could the tribune understand over the noise?
 - d. So what did he do?
22. Paul's life was in so much danger what did the soldiers (you know, the guys with armor and swords) have to do (21:35)?
 - a. Why (21:36)?
23. Keeping in mind the crazy chaos of what has happened, and that Paul was following the instructions from James and the elders, notice how calm Paul is in 21:37. What does he say?
24. And the reaction from the tribune in 21:37-38?
25. Paul answers and makes a request in 21:39.
 - a. What is his answer?
 - b. What is his request?
 - i. Does this seem wise?
 - ii. Why did Paul do this?
26. In 21:40, what did Paul do with his hand?
 - a. The crowd did what?
 - b. Paul spoke in what language?
 - i. Is this the same or different than with the tribune?
 - ii. Why would he do this?

Your questions, comments, and thoughts?

What are the practical lessons for you today?