

THE ACTS

OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

CHAPTER 24:1-21

MEDIA REFERENCE NUMBER SM - 218

TITLE:

PAUL PLEADS GUILTY

BEING READY TO SHARE THE LORD

THEME:

Acts 1:8

"But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and "you shall be witnesses to Me" in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

SEOUL, Jan 7 (Reuter) - A South Korean man who fell into a sewer in a drunken stupor survived for nine days underground without food or fresh water, Yonhap news agency said on Sunday. Cho Song-chol, a 51-year-old construction consultant, was taken to a hospital after being pulled from a sewer in southern Seoul on Saturday night by rescue workers. Yonhap said Cho was in good health and had suffered only light bruises. He fell six meters (19.7 feet) down an uncovered manhole on December 28 on his way home from a year-end party. "I cannot remember anything as I was so drunk at the time,"

He Had Lost His Way

We left Paul arrested, *in protective custody of the Roman government under Commander Claudius Lysius 470 manned armed escort*

Why? - 40 + zealots / radicals, who vowed a vow to God... "We will not eat until Paul is dead.... and as they looked out the window they saw Paul being escorted off to Caesarea to stand before Felix the Cat.

- their stomachs now beginning to grumble with panic!

Paul's Situation;

Seemingly Abandoned on the Surface
No mention of God or even a Guardian Angel

Providential care is;
"the unseen intervention of God in the affairs of men"

There are times in

all of our Christian lives that it's difficult to pray, it's hard to read the word.... we feel like giving up and shutting down!

It's Not that God is... No-Where
but
it's that God is... Now-Here

1.) The World's View of Christ & Christians

vv. 1-9

The Accusation

took on the form of a well-planned attack!

#1 *He Attacked Paul with Personal Charges*

vv. 5a

"For we (Jews) have found this man **a plague**,

* **plague** GRK 3061 loimos (loy'-mos);

a disease, a pest, a rodent or a bug, or a pestilence

That hurts if you love the one who's attacking you

This Guy is Contagious, He is a Bacteria, a Virus, a Bug!
The Fickle Love of the World

Paul didn't love Tertullius or the Jews who were seeking his destruction like - let's do lunch! Paul loved them because Jesus loved them, Paul could see that eternity was approaching fast and that their lives would soon be gone!

He loved their lost, condemned, blinded, and ignorant souls

Jude 1:23

... others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire, (ALARM CLOCK CONVERSION)

Do not blame your friends or family for caring more for your eternal destination than you do - having the eternal point of view

Revelation 3:15-17

"I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot. :16 "So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth. :17 "Because you say, 'I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing'-- and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked-

The Kings New Robe, The King is Naked
mommy, why is the King naked?...

The Point is not *The Messenger*, But *The Message!*

- *Is The Message True?* - *That's When The Personal Attacks Begin*

Our Audience Is Unaware...

That They Have Become Their Own Worst Enemy

Charles Spurgeon tells a story about a Stewart aboard one of England's cruise ships. The ship that he was aboard hit an ice burg and began to sink and while people were abandoning the ship, he went through the cabins of the wealthiest people on board and stuffed his pockets with all the jewels and gold and money that was left behind... And jumping over board he missed the life raft and when straight to the bottom of the Atlantic!

Proverbs 14:12

There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death.

Judges 5:20

They fought from the heavens; the stars from their courses fought against Sisera.

#1 - a creator of dissension among all the Jews throughout the world,
and #2 - a ringleader (Protestant) of the sect of the Nazarenes.

We are trying to throw them a life-jacket
- a parachute

they reject salvation like a seat-belt

- IT WILL WRINKLE MY CLOTHES
- IT'S UNCOMFORTABLE TO WEAR
- BUT IT DOESN'T MATCH MY OUTFIT

CRASH DUMMIES DO NOT WEAR THEIR SEAT BELTS

"He even tried to profane the temple, and we seized him,

Verse 2

Notice HOW he Started the Attack
by greasing the wheels with some slime

Verse 3

This is a Bunch of Bandini
The Definition of being Politically Correct

Verse 4-5

Who does Tertullius remind you of?

The Devil

Revelation 12:10

Satan - the accuser of our Christian brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down.

What does This Scenario remind you of?

The World

John 15:18

"If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before it hated you.

Where else does an attack like this come from?

Me

1 John 3:20

For if our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and knows all things.

Paul had been planting the seed of Christianity
all over the known world

Matthew 5:11-12

"Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. :12 **"Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven,**
for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

2.) Paul's Guilt is Pleasing to the Lord

vv. 10-16

A.) *Paul's response to Tertullius*

vv. 10-16

Notice How Paul Responds...

Let the Lord be your defense and be careful about it, if you should defend yourself

Never give your accuser the satisfaction of a retaliation - rather bless them!

Matthew 10:18-20

"You will be brought before governors and kings for My sake, as a testimony to them and to the Gentiles. :19 "But when they deliver you up, **do not worry about how or what you should speak**. For it will be given to you in that hour what you should speak; :20 "for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you.

A Judge - 8 years *he sat on the bench & was known for being a wicked and murderous judge*

Verse 11-13

there is a proper way to defend your case
- God's way !

Verse 14

EXTRA! PAUL PLEADS GUILTY EXTRA!

* Confess GRK 3670 homologeo (hom-ol-og-eh'-o)
to publicly acknowledge, to state as fact. to give assent,

~~~~~ The Way ~~~~~  
*Paul was Guilty of Following the Lord*

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My religion satisfies me...

...But does it satisfy God?

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- I Confess - that **I Worship** - the God of our Fathers
- I Confess - that **I Believe** in - All the scriptures
- I Confess - that **I have Hope** - in the resurrection

1.) *I Worship The God of Our Fathers*

# **The God of Our Fathers**

O.T. I am kosher all the way

Paul did not see himself as a non-jew,  
but as a fulfilled / completed Jew

The Old Testament revelation is fulfilled / completed in the New testament dispensation

## ***THE WORLD TODAY***

is under the Old Testament Demands - THE LAW

## ***THE CHRISTIAN TODAY***

is under the finished work of Jesus - GRACE

### **Romans 10:19 / Exodus**

I will provoke you to jealousy by them that are not my people,  
and by a foolish nation I will provoke you....

### **Romans 10:20 - Isaiah says:**

"I was found by those who did not seek Me; I was made manifest to those who did not  
ask for Me."

### **Isaiah Says Again - Romans 10:21**

But concerning my people Israel he says, "All day long I have held out my hands to a  
disobedient and obstinate people."

### **Romans 11:11**

to provoke the Jew to jealousy, salvation has come to the Gentiles.

the new is in the Old concealed.  
the old is in the New Revealed

## ***2.) I Believe In The Scriptures - the Bible***

- You can Trust 100% fully upon the accuracy of the Bible
- You can Rest assured that you can build your life upon it
- You can Expect fully that all that it says will come to pass

poor Jesus,  
he didn't have the Claremont school of theology & the Jesus project...  
**Jesus said the most outlandish things during His life...**

Jesus quoted the most controversial scriptures of the Bible...

- Jesus said that Sodom & Gomorrah were real cities
- Jesus said that Adam & Eve were created in the garden
- Jesus said that Noah built a Ship
- That Jonah was swallowed by a great fish
- Jesus cited that Lot's wife turned into a pillar of Salt

**Then He said,  
if you kill me, I will rise from the dead in three days**

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If He's wrong... He's wrong - but if He's right... then He's right

if the message is wrong - it's wrong - but if the message is right

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is it a Gamble?

Las Vegas is for losers (unless you need to get gas or breakfast) because  
who do you think is paying the light bill for all those casino's? the losers !!!

Can Christians Gamble?

How can Christians Gamble, when they do not own anything - it's all the Lord's.

Jesus - I know the **homeless are hungry** - I know the church is **housing the fatherless**  
I know my brothers & sisters are paying for the **sheltering of the widows...**  
But Can I Flush your \$20.00 down the toilet?

If Gambling with money is stupid & wasteful...  
how much more - eternity!

### 3.) *I Have Hope - Assurance of Life After death*

#### Verse 15

- Resurrection for the Christian is LIFE
- Resurrection for the Non-Christian is DEATH

#### Revelation 20 the great white throne judgment of God

If you're Born Once, you'll Die Twice  
If you're Born Twice, you'll Die Once

### 3.) Jesus is the Dividing Issue

vv. 17-21

#### A.) *Paul's response to The Jews*

vv. 17-19

#### Verse 16-17

#### The True Contradicts the False!

Paul was there to worship and the temple record in Jerusalem would confirm that.  
Paul had purchased the sacrifices for himself and the 4 men who were with him!

#### B.) *Paul's response to The Jewish Counsel* vv. 20-21

#### Verse 20

the real issue is... Resurrection!

Josephus says Felix spent alot of time and money suppressing Jewish attacks on Christianity

#### Verse 21

# With a holy sarcasm...

**"I am guilty and thus plead guilty for reminding the Jews of their own doctrine, that there will be a resurrection - if they like it or not!"**

## Verse 22

### This is part 1

of the Issue - The Hope of the Resurrection from the dead

if i asked you "would you like an abundant life?" your answer would be yes!

if i asked you "would you like to have age-abiding life" your answer would be yes!

if i asked you "would you like to live on a never-ending rush" your answer would be yes!

LONDON - Daphne Banks, a farmer's wife, was recovering in a British hospital after being pronounced dead and taken to a mortuary. Undertakers took Banks, 61, to a hospital in Huntingdon, eastern England, in the early hours of New Year's Day after she was declared dead at her home by a doctor. Hospital spokeswoman Margaret Markey said mortuary workers were about to put the body in a refrigerator when they noticed signs of life and called a doctor. Banks was found breathing and, after intensive care, is now recovering well. Markey said the "resurrection" came as a bit of a shock to the hospital workers. "Obviously, they are intrigued by it, but very glad for Mrs. Banks.

PARIS - A Frenchman comes back from grave twice, twice listed as dead by French officials, said he was getting fed up with explaining that he was still alive. "So far I've died twice," Maurice Georges, 76, told French television, expressing frustration with official errors. "**The main thing is to be alive.**" In 1966 he applied to local authorities, where he was born, for documents needed for an inheritance. They contacted him to announce that he had died in 1965. After a legal battle to come back from the official grave, he applied last year for a birth certificate but was denied, saying it was impossible - because he had died in 1988.

The World Says - "Abundant life"

I can give you that, come and have sex with me, buy me, run with me!

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The World Says - "Age Abiding life"

I can give you that, eat well, exercise, meditate, maintain yourself, silicone!!!

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The World Says - "A Never Ending Rush"

I can give you that, drink this, inject that, snort this, - astral-projection, think happy

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part 2 is  
there is no part 1 without Jesus Christ !!!

"Jesus Says - "Abundant life"

John 10:10

"I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.

"Jesus Says - "Age Abiding life"

John 11:26

"And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?"

"Jesus Says - "A Never Ending Rush"

John 7:38

"He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will  
flow rivers of living water."

Jesus is Either  
#1 Your Problem or #2 He's Your Answer