

LESSON 20

ACTS 22:30 -23:35

1. What truth or verse stood out to you from last week's study of **Acts 21:18 - 22:29**? How did it help you to face the challenges of your week?

2. Paul is under arrest in Jerusalem. As you read through **Acts 22:30-23:35**, pray for insight into the heart and mind of Paul. What hints do you see about Paul's state of mind while he is in custody?

3. From **Acts 22:30-23:5**, how did Paul handle himself and what did he say in front of the Sanhedrin and the high priest Ananias?

- 4. Paul's statement in **Acts 23:6** caused a dispute to break out between two factions of the Sanhedrin as described in **V7-10**.
 - a) What did Paul proclaim and how did the beliefs of the two factions differ?

- b) Which faction was not convinced of Paul's crime and how did the dispute end?
- 5. **Read V11** about Paul's visitor while he is in protective custody. What important assurance does Paul receive and from whom?

6. Summarize the crime described in **V12-15**. What is unsettling about the evil plot against Paul?

7. a) According to **V16-22**, who did **God** use to foil the plot? Detail what this young man did and what fears he might have had to overcome.

b) Give some other examples from the Bible or your own experience where **God** used the "small" to stand up to the "mighty".

8. What were the main points of the commander's letter to Governor Felix from **V25-30**? How accurate was the letter? See **Acts 22:23-29**.

9. Who were Paul's unlikely protectors in **Acts 23:23-24; 31-35**? When have you experienced **God** working in unexpected ways to protect you?

10. REFLECT ON THE WORDS OF JESUS

Jesus knew that Paul was in the middle of fearful circumstances and would have more persecution ahead: "The following night the Lord stood near Paul and said, "Take courage! As you have testified about me in Jerusalem, so you must also testify in Rome." Acts 23:11. Think of someone you know who is in the middle of their own fearful circumstances. Write out a prayer asking the Lord to stand near them and give them courage.

<u>NAME</u>

PRAYER REQUEST