



Tell Me the Story of Jesus

Lesson 48 – Acts 24

People — Who is involved?

Tertullian – orator speaking for the High Priest and elders.

Felix – the Roman Governor

Drusilla – Felix' wife

Porcius Festus – Governor following Felix

Places — Where does it happen?

Caesarea Maritima – seat of Roman government in Palestine.

Pearls — What information will help me to understand better?

Vs 1 – Tertullus was an orator (we get our word “rhetoric” from the Greek word used here.

Vs 3 – See chapter 23, comments on verse 26 for description of Felix.

Vs 5 – The Jews thought of Christianity as a “sect” or organized group with identifiable beliefs.

This so-called “sect” was identified with Jesus of Nazareth (see 5:17; 15:5; 24:14; 26:5; 28:22)

Vs 6 – Charges against Paul: a) a plague or pest; b) creator of dissension or political agitator; c) leader of a sectarian faction; and d) defiler of the temple (v. 5-6).

Vs 7 – There is a certain degree of risk in accusing Lysias before the Roman governor.

Vs 8 – Tertullus was confident that when Felix examined Paul, he would find the charges to be true.

Vs 11 – Paul's defense is that it has only been 12 days and no apparent rebellion in Jerusalem happened.

Vs 17 – He further states that his purpose was to bring gifts to help people; not to arouse rebellion.

Vs 22 – Felix “reserves judgment” waiting for Lysias, in his sight a non-partisan observer, to testify.

Vs 24 – Drusilla was a daughter of Herod Agrippa I and sister to Agrippa II. She was supposedly Jewish by Religion. She was part Idumaeon by blood. She was married to Azizus at age 14 or 15. She left him to marry Felix. She was born in AD 38 so she was probably just 19 or 20 at this time. According to Josephus, Suetonius, and Tacitus she was Felix' third wife.

Vs 25 – Understanding the circumstances of Felix and Drusilla's marriage, Paul's sermon to them is reminiscent of John the Baptist's message to Herod Antipas (Luke 3:19-20).

Vs 26 – Felix' character is further seen in his desire for a bribe from Paul or his friends.

Vs 27 – Paul is kept in the prison for two years. It is thought that during that time, Luke may have been writing the Gospel According to Luke.

Vs 28 – At the end of that time, Felix is recalled to Rome by Nero and replaced by Porcius Festus.

Perspectives – What may I learn from this chapter?

1. There may be frequent false charges against God's messengers.
2. Paul did good, like Jesus, rather than committing the crimes he was accused of. We should imitate that in our lives..
3. We must be preaching about righteousness, self-control, and judgment to come.