The Two Treatises
Lesson 55

Paul Continues In Caesarea
Acts 25

Introduction

A change in Roman governors did not help Paul's predicament. Festus will now hear Paul's case, and the Jews continue to press their charges. However, Paul does something no one probably imagined...he invoked his rights as a Roman citizen to by-pass these "trumped up charges" from the Jews. His appeal to Caesar had to be honored, and it set in motion the events that would eventually take him to where the Lord had already told him he would go...Rome (cp. 23:11).

Standing Before Festus (25:1-27)

1) What happened after Festus traveled from Caesarea to Jerusalem? (vv. 1-2) What request did the Jews make re: Paul? (v. 3a) Why? (v. 3b; cp. 23:12-15)

2) What was Festus' decision? (vv. 4-5) When the time came to hear Paul's case (v. 6), how did those proceedings go? (v. 7) What was Paul's response? (v. 8)

3) Was Festus "inclined" in one way more than another? (v. 9a; cp. 24:27)

4) What question did he ask Paul? (v. 9b) How did Paul answer him? (vv. 10-11)
   Thought question: what "civil principles" can be emphasized in Paul's reply?

5) How did Festus react to Paul's defense? (v. 12)

6) What happened next? (v. 13) *Research question*: which "Agrippa" was this?

7) What "came about" during their visit with Festus? (vv. 14-21) What does Festus "admit" in his remarks about Paul to Agrippa? How had this whole situation become a "dilemma" for the governor?

8) What did Agrippa say in v. 22a?

9) Describe the "opening ceremonies" in v. 23 as Paul is brought before Agrippa & Bernice.

10) Based on Festus' remarks, what was he obviously hoping for by having Agrippa hear Paul's defense? (vv. 24-27)