Paul Continues In Caesarea
Acts 26

Introduction

For the third time, Paul will present his own defense before a high-ranking Roman government official. This time, there will not be any Jews presenting their "accusations." Again, we are given a glimpse into the heart of Paul...he made no attempts to defend himself or insist on a release from this unjustified arrest. Rather, he used an unpleasant situation to try and advance the kingdom of God (v. 29). In this, Paul shows us in how the N.T. church & lost men should always be our focus (cp. 1 Cor. 9:23).

Standing Before Agrippa (26:1-32)

1) When Paul is given permission to speak, how does he begin to defend himself? (vv. 2-3) Contrast this to the comments of Tertullus. (cp. 24:2-4)

2) What does Paul reference in vv. 4-5? What does he emphasize in vv. 6-7? (cp. 23:6; 24:14-15) What do you think is the basis for the question he asks in v. 8?

3) To what subject does Paul return in vv. 9-18? (cp. 9:1-9; 22:4-10) Be able to explain the phrase *"It is hard for you to kick against the goads."* (v. 14)

4) *Thought question*: considering 9:4-5 and the 2 times the narrative is re-told (22:7-8 & 26:14-15), what are we taught by the Lord's choice of words?

5) How did Paul explain what he concluded about the vision to Agrippa? (vv. 19-20)
Thought question: what do we learn about repentance from v. 20? (cp. Mt. 3:8)

6) How does Paul connect what he has just said to the events that have brought him to Caesarea? (vv. 21-23)

7) While Paul is speaking, what happened? (v. 24) How did Paul respond? (vv. 25-26)

8) How did Paul "make this personal" with Agrippa? (v. 27) What was the king's reply? (v. 28)

9) What were Paul's final words of exhortation? (v. 29)

10) What conclusion did Agrippa come to following Paul's defense? (vv. 30-32) What do you suppose Festus thought about the king's conclusion? (cp. 25:20-21, 24-27)