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**Study of Acts:
Chapters 26-28**

We're glad you're here!

Paul's speech before Agrippa (26:1-23)

- **Paul begins by complimenting Agrippa, stating that Agrippa was "familiar with the customs and controversies of the Jews." (26:2,3)**
- **Paul recounts his early life as a Pharisee, and even describes his persecution of the Christians. (26:4-11)**
- **He then describes his dramatic conversion on the Damascus road. He states that Jesus said to him, "It hurts you to kick against the goads." (26:12-18)**



Paul's speech before Agrippa (26:1-23)

- **Paul says that he did not disobey the heavenly vision. He preached to both Jews and Gentiles that they should "repent and turn to God." (26:19-21)**
- **He concluded that Jesus had fulfilled what Moses and the prophets had said by his suffering and resurrection. (26:22,23)**

Responses to Paul's speech (26:24-29)

- **With a loud voice Festus interrupts: "Paul, you are mad; your great learning is turning you mad." (26:24)**
- **Paul denies that he is mad. He then turns to Agrippa, declaring that what he has described has "not been done in a corner." He boldly asks, "King Agrippa, do you believe the prophets? I know that you believe." (26:25-27)**
- **Agrippa replies, "In a short time you think to make me a Christian!" (26:28)**
- **Paul responds, "Whether short or long, I would to God that also all that hear me this day might become such as I am—except for these chains." (26:29)**



The conclusion of this gathering (26:30-32)

- **Some of the group commented that Paul had done "nothing to deserve death or imprisonment." (26:30,31)**
- **Agrippa also said to Festus, "This man could have been set free if he had not appealed to Caesar." (26:32)**



The first phase of Paul's voyage to Rome (27:1-8)

- **Departing from Caesarea, Paul was guarded by Julius, a centurion. Paul was accompanied by Aristarchus and Luke. This ship first stopped in Sidon and then sailed on to Myra. Here they transferred to a grain ship that originated in Alexandria. (27:1-6)**
- **They continued on with some difficulty because of contrary winds. They sailed under the lee of Crete and harbored at Fair Havens. (27:7,8)**

A very dangerous and difficult voyage (27:9-20)

- **Paul advised them not to continue on but winter there. He warned them that there would be injuries and much loss. But the captain and owner of the ship disagreed, so they set sail for Phoenix, a port in Crete. Soon a strong wind prevailed, and they forced to throw some cargo overboard. (27:9-18)**
- **The storm intensified so that the sun and stars could not be seen for many days. Luke writes, "All hope of our being saved was abandoned." (27:19,20)**



Paul assures them (27:21-44)

- **Paul tells those on board that he had received a vision. In this vision he was assured, that although the ship would be lost, there would be no loss of life." (27:21-26)**
- **After 14 days of drifting in the Adriatic Sea, the sailors began to suspect they were nearing land. The sailors attempted to escape in a boat to the land, but the soldiers prevented this. (27:27-32)**

Paul assures them (27:21-44)

- **Paul continues to assure the persons on board. He encourages them to take food for strength. He publicly prays to God and breaks bread in their presence. The passengers of the ship follow Paul's lead (27:33-36)**
- **There were 226 persons on the ship. As they approached land, the ship ran aground. The ship then began to be torn apart by the surf. All were forced to abandon ship. Those who could swam to shore. Others rode to the shore on planks or pieces of the ship. All were rescued. (27:37-44)**

Paul and the ship passengers in Malta (28:1-10)

- The island natives welcome the passengers to the island and build them a fire. While gathering wood, Paul is bitten by a snake. At first the island people think Paul is being punished by the gods. When he remains unharmed, they believe him to be a god. (28:1-6)**
- Publius, the chief of Malta, extends hospitality to the survivors. Publius's father falls ill with fever and dysentery; Paul lays his hands on Publius' father and heals him. Other inhabitants now come to Paul with diseases and are healed. (28:7-10)**



Paul and his companions sail from Malta (28:11-14)

- **After three months they depart from Malta with gifts and provisions from the islanders. They sail on an Alexandrian ship and stop at Syracuse, Rhegium, and Puteoli. (28:11-14)**
- **At Puteoli, they find brethren and stay with them for seven days (28:14)**

Paul arrives in Rome (28:15-22)

- Paul meets and visits with brethren in Rome. He is placed in a house in Rome with a soldier to guard him. (28:15)**
- Paul calls together the local leaders of the Jews to explain what caused him to be in Rome. He relates the fierce opposition of the Jews in Jerusalem that led to his appeal to Caesar. (28:19,20)**
- These leading Jews state they had no letter from Judea about this matter. And they express their willingness to hear Paul views. (28:21,22)**

Paul's speech to the Jewish gathering (28:23-29)

- **A large number of Jews come to hear Paul at his lodging. He testified about the kingdom of God and tried "to convince them about Jesus from the law of Moses and the prophets." (28:23,24)**
- **"Some were convinced by what he said, while others disbelieved." (28:24)**
- **Paul then rebuked the unbelievers by quoting a passage from Isaiah 6:9,10: "You shall indeed hear but never understand, and you shall indeed see, but never perceive." (28:25-27)**
- **He declares that "the salvation of God will be sent to the Gentiles: they will listen." (28:28)**



The concluding words of the book of Acts (28:30)

- **"And he lived there two whole years at his own expense, and welcomed all who came to him, preaching the kingdom of God and teaching about the Lord Jesus Christ quite openly and unhindered."**

