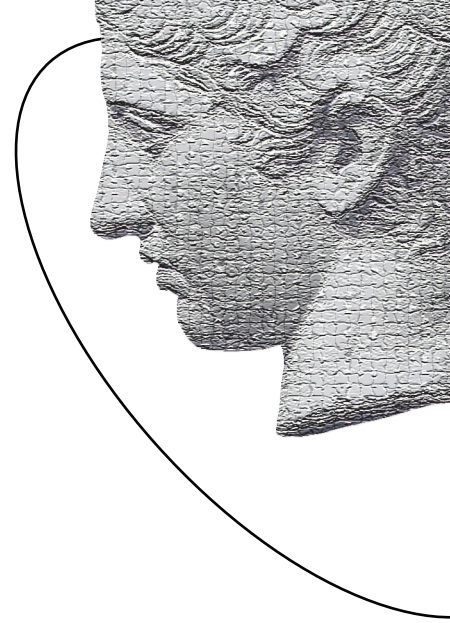


A

acts.

21



when.

- The events of Acts 21 occurred between approximately 55-57 A.D.

characters.

- Paul (Saul) – An Apostle who was working in Asia Minor planting churches.
- Agabus – A prophet from Judea (see also Acts 11:28).
- Philip the Evangelist – Probably the same Philip whose work is highlighted in Acts 8.
- James – A leader in the church of Jerusalem, likely the brother of Jesus (Matthew 13:55).
- Roman Tribune – Roman soldier in Jerusalem who saved Paul from an angry mob.

where.

- At the opening of this chapter, Paul departed Miletus and sailed to Tyre. Leaving Tyre, he travelled to Caesarea and remained their “many days” before departing for Jerusalem.



acts.

outline.

- PAUL TRAVELS TO TYRE AND CAESAREA (21:1-9):
 - + Paul left Miletus and sailed past Cyprus to the city of Tyre in Phoenicia.
 - + He stayed with the disciples 7 days, and they urged him not to go to Jerusalem because trouble awaited him there.
 - + But Paul was determined to leave, so at the end of the 7 days, they accompanied him to his ship as it prepared to sail for Caesarea.
 - + After a quick stop in Ptolemais, Paul's ship arrived in Caesarea, and he received hospitality in Philip the evangelist's house.
 - + He stayed with Philip and his 4 daughters for "many days."
- THE PROPHECY OF AGABUS AND THE JOURNEY TO JERUSALEM (21:10-16):
 - + A prophet named Agabus came from Judea and prophesied that if Paul went to Jerusalem, he would be bound hand and foot by the Jews and handed over to the Gentiles.
 - + Hearing this, Paul's friends urged him not to go, but he was determined.
 - + Paul went to Jerusalem accompanied by some of the disciples from Caesarea.
- PAUL VISITS JAMES AND PURIFIES HIMSELF IN THE TEMPLE (21:17-26):
 - + After arriving in Jerusalem, Paul went to see James and the elders.
 - + He told them about all the work God had accomplished through him and his friends.
 - + James was worried about Paul's reputation among the Jews in Jerusalem.
 - + The Jews were angry because they heard Paul taught Jews to "forsake Moses, telling them not to circumcise their children or walk according to" Jewish customs.
 - + To show that Paul lived in "observance of the law," James asked Paul to join 4 men who had taken a vow and were purifying themselves in the Temple.
- THE ROMANS SEIZE PAUL FROM AN ANGRY MOB OF JEWS (21:27-40):
 - + Some Jews from Asia found Paul in the Temple and stirred up a crowd by saying he didn't respect the Jewish Law and had brought Gentiles into the Temple.
 - + "Then all the city was stirred up" and they dragged Paul out of the Temple.
 - + The Jews wanted to kill him, but the Roman tribune took Paul from them.
 - + The tribune arrested Paul and asked the crowd what crimes he had committed.
 - + When the Jews offered him no clarity, he ordered Paul into the barracks.
 - + But Paul asked for permission to speak to the crowd, which the tribune granted.
 - + Standing on the steps of the barracks, Paul motioned to the people and addressed them in their native language (Hebrew).

application.

- It is easier to walk into dangerous situations when you know Jesus is on your side.
- Paul knew Jerusalem would be dangerous, but he was convicted to go anyway.
- When we are confident Jesus is safeguarding our souls, we will no longer be controlled by fear, but by conviction.
- Hebrews 13:5a-6 - ...for he has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." So we can confidently say, "The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?"