

## Lecture 19 Acts

/We will now begin lecture nineteen on Acts. /Today we will begin with Acts 26./ The title is "King Agrippa."

/First, Paul gives his defense and evangelized./Verses 1-23./ Second, Paul evangelizes to King Agrippa./Verses 24-29./ Third, the king concludes that Paul is innocent./Verses 30-32.

/Read verse 1. /Then Agrippa said to Paul, "You have permission to speak for yourself." So Paul motioned with his hand and began his defense:

/Here King Agrippa is Agrippa II. /He was the great-grandson of Herod the Great.  
/King Agrippa and Governor Festus questioned Paul./Before that, Paul had appealed to Caesar.

/The governor had to send Paul to Rome as a prisoner./Before that, they needed to determine the crime Paul would be charged with./Therefore, the governor and King Agrippa questioned Paul.

/Verses 2-3. /"King Agrippa, I consider myself fortunate to stand before you today as I make my defense against all the accusations of the Jews, and especially so because you are well acquainted with all the Jewish customs and controversies. Therefore, I beg you to listen to me patiently.

/King Agrippa was the king of the Jews./He was also Jewish./He knew about the prophets from the Old Testament./ The king knew about Jewish customs and controversies.

/Therefore, Paul considered it fortunate to stand before King Agrippa.

/Verse 4. /"The Jews all know the way I have lived ever since I was a child, from the beginning of my life in my own country, and also in Jerusalem.

/Paul had faith because he grew up in Jerusalem./ Paul said that he was already known by the Jews./ Paul was also a member of the most conservative sect of the Pharisees.

/This sect was very conservative./ Paul said he hoped for the promise which God had given to his ancestors./Paul was waiting for this promise with great expectation.

/The promise was about Christ./ The Jews believed that Christ would come through the son of David. / Twelve tribes of Israel waited for Christ.

/Paul believed in the Christ whom the Jews were waiting for./He was in chains because he evangelized about Christ.

/Therefore, Paul claimed that he didn't have any sins./ He believed and proclaimed Christ who his forefathers were waiting for.

/Verse 8. /Why should any of you consider it incredible that God raises the dead?

/God can raise the dead to life./ The Bible teaches about resurrection./ God has infinite power so he can raise the dead to life./ Therefore, Paul believed in the resurrection of Jesus.

/He argued that there is no difference between his faith and the Jews' faith./ The Jews too believed in resurrection. /Paul also believed in the resurrection of Jesus.

/Verse 9. /"I too was convinced that I ought to do all that was possible to oppose the name of Jesus of Nazareth.

/Paul confessed that he once persecuted Jesus of Nazareth./He fervently persecuted the church./He tried to destroy Christianity./Then he was on his way to Damascus with the authority given him by the high priest to arrest Christians.

/He had traveled to foreign lands to put Christians in prison./Yet, on his way to Damascus he met the resurrected Christ.

/The resurrected Jesus called Paul./ Act 9:1-3/ Paul testified to the resurrection of Jesus before the king and the governor.

/Verse 14. /We all fell to the ground, and I heard a voice saying to me in Aramaic, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me? It is hard for you to kick against the goads.'

/At that time he heard a voice speak to him in Aramaic, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?"/"It is hard for you to kick against the goads."

/A cow is in pain when it kicks against the goads./ When God disciplines and punishes us we must repent of our sins immediately./ However, the more we resist God, the more hardships we will encounter.

/Today, if we disobey God, we will suffer as well./Paul hurt himself when he persecuted the churches and the believers./ If anyone like the governor or King Agrippa persecute the believers, they will suffer as well.

/Verse 15. /"Then I asked, 'Who are you, Lord?' "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting,' the Lord replied.

/Paul asked "Who are you, Lord?" /Then Jesus answered "I am Jesus , whom you are persecuting." /This is recorded in Acts 9:4.

/Verses 16-17. /Now get up and stand on your feet. I have appeared to you to appoint you as a servant and as a witness of what you have seen of me and what I will show you. I will rescue you from your own people and from the Gentiles. I am sending you to them

/The Lord called Paul and appointed him as a servant and as a witness./ The Lord said that he would send Paul to the people of Israel and to the Gentiles./ God told Paul what he was to testify.

/First, "Testify that I appeared to you."/ Paul was to be a witness to what he saw and what he knew and what he experienced./ Second, "Testify what I am going to show you."/This was the work that God was going to do through Paul.

/They were wonders and miracles./ It was to testify to salvation for the Gentiles./ Hence, God would send Paul to the Gentiles and save them./Jesus sent Paul as an apostle of the Gentiles.

/Verse 18. /to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.'

/Paul spread the gospel to open people's eyes. / Eyes will be opened after receiving the gospel./Their spiritual eyes were opened./People go from darkness into the light.

/People will go into the light of righteousness from the darkness of sin. /Also, they will return to God from the power of Satan./ They were slaves of Satan before they believed in Jesus, but they would now return to God after believing in Jesus.

/Their sins would be forgiven after they believe in Jesus./ The problem of sin would be taken care of./ They would receive the inheritance from God./ Whoever believes in Jesus will receive these blessings.

/Also, the evangelist plays these kinds of roles./You will receive these blessings after you become a believer./The evangelist also guides people from the darkness into the light./ The evangelist guides people who are slaves of Satan to God.

/The evangelist helps people receive the blessings of God./They introduce our God of blessings to others.

/Verse 19. /"So then, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the vision from heaven.

/Paul spoke to King Agrippa./ Paul was not disobedient to the vision from heaven./ He testified to what God showed him./ Paul testified just as he experienced.

/Verses 20-23. /First to those in Damascus, then to those in Jerusalem and in all Judea, and to the Gentiles also, I preached that they should repent and turn to God and prove their repentance by their deeds. That is why the Jews seized me in the temple courts and tried to kill me. But I have had God's help to this very day, and so I stand here and testify to small and great alike. I am saying nothing beyond what the prophets and Moses said would happen--that the Christ would suffer and, as the first to rise from the dead, would proclaim light to his own people and to the Gentiles."

/Paul continued to testify to the vision from heaven./ Paul went to Damascus to evangelize./ He went to all Judea to evangelize./Then he evangelized to the Gentiles to confess their sins and believe in Jesus.

/The Jews tried to kill Paul because he spread the gospel./ However, Paul said that he was testifying only to what the prophets in the Old testament predicted and what Moses predicted.

/He testified to what the prophets prophesied./ The prophets prophesied about the sufferings of Christ./ Isaiah 53:1/ They also testified about the resurrection./Psalm 16:10

/They spread the light to the Gentiles./ Isaiah 2:5/ Isaiah 9:1-12/ In this way, the prophets testified to the sufferings of Jesus and His resurrection./Therefore, Paul testified to Jesus according to the prophecies of the Old Testament.

/Now, Paul evangelized to King Agrippa and Festus./ He said he testified to Christ according to the Old Testament prophecies./ Christ came according to Old Testament prophecies.

/Jesus rose from the dead./ Now Jesus become the light./ Paul was the man who testified about Jesus./ Therefore, Paul evangelized and told everyone to believe in Jesus.

/Verse 24. /At this point Festus interrupted Paul's defense. "You are out of your mind, Paul!" he shouted. "Your great learning is driving you insane."

/Paul testified./ At this point Festus called him crazy./ "Your great learning is driving you insane."/ When we live with faith, unbelievers may say that we are crazy./Unbelievers cannot understand us.

/Unbelievers do not understand the world of faith./ They say believers are foolish./1 Corinthians 1:18/ For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing/ but to us who are being saved it is the power of God./ 1 Corinthians 1:25

/The truth of God is wisdom to the true believer./ Those who believe in Jesus are wise../ Therefore, people called Paul insane./However, we believers are not insane.

/We are completely sane./ We believers are the true wise people.

/Verses 25-26. /"I am not insane, most excellent Festus," Paul replied. "What I am saying is true and reasonable. The king is familiar with these things, and I can speak freely to him. I am convinced that none of this has escaped his notice, because it was not done in a corner.

/Paul said that what he was saying was true and reasonable./ He said that what he was saying was well known to everybody./ "These things" are Jesus' death on the cross and resurrection./All Judea knew about the story of Jesus.

/Everyone knew because it was public news./There was evidence that Paul was not insane./Whatever he said agreed with Scripture./He also testified to events that really happened./ He testified to already known facts.

/Verse 27. /King Agrippa, do you believe the prophets? I know you do."

/Paul asked, "King Agrippa, do you believe the prophets?"/ King Agrippa was Jewish and he believed in the Old Testament./ Therefore, he knew about the prophets.

/Then, the king would have known that Christ had to suffer according to Old Testament prophecies./Paul told him to believe in Christ./Paul preached boldly to the king./Whether he was successful or not he preached according to the mission that was given him.

/Verses 28-29. /Then Agrippa said to Paul, "Do you think that in such a short time you can persuade me to be a Christian?" Paul replied, "Short time or long-- I pray God that not only you but all who are listening to me today may become what I am, except for these chains."

/Agrippa said to Paul, "Do you think that in such a short time you can persuade me to be a Christian?"/ The king was not a person who would become a Christian with a few words.

/However, Paul replied./ "I pray to God that not only you but all who are listening to me today may become what I am, except for these chains."/ Paul was bound in chains.

/Yet, he still had freedom./It was freedom that came from faith./ It was freedom from sin./He was not envious of the king./Paul was not envious of the governor./Paul believed that he was the happiest person.

/True happiness is believing in Jesus and being saved./Becoming a king or a governor in the world does not bring happiness./There is no salvation in worldly power./Paul believed that Jesus died and resurrected.

/He boldly evangelized before the king./ Paul was at peace./ He was satisfied and had joy./This glorified God./Therefore, Paul was not envious of the king./Rather, he evangelized boldly in front of the king.

/"I pray to God that everyone may believe in Jesus."/ Believing in Jesus is the greatest blessing./ Acts 24:29/ Also, God gave Paul the chance to spread the gospel to people of high social status./ 2 Corinthians 6:10

/Paul seemed anxious, but he was joyful./ Paul seemed dead, but he was alive./ He seemed to have nothing, but he made others rich.

/Verses 30-31. /The king rose, and with him the governor and Bernice and those sitting with them. They left the room, and while talking with one another, they said, "This man is not doing anything that deserves death or imprisonment."

/Here the king and the governor still didn't believe in Jesus./ We don't always have opportunities./They said that Paul was not guilty of a crime./ They declared him innocent./ It was the third time that Paul was declared innocent./ Acts 23:29/ Acts 25:25

/Verse 32. /Agrippa said to Festus, "This man could have been set free if he had not appealed to Caesar."

/Agrippa said to Festus, "This man could have been set free if he had not appealed to Caesar."/However, they had to send Paul to Caesar because he appealed to Caesar.

/Eventually it was the providence of God to send Paul to Rome./God guided Paul to spread the gospel to Rome.

/We will continue the lecture with Acts 27.

/The title of chapter 27 is "Dispatch."

/First, Paul goes to Fair Havens from Caesarea. /Verses 1-8./ Second, reason for why they are caught in a storm./Verses 9-13./ Third, they are faced with a huge storm./Verses 14-20./ Fourth, Paul gives hope in the storm./Verses 21-26./ Fifth, the way of salvation opens in the storm./ Verses 27-44.

/Read verses 1-5. /When it was decided that we would sail for Italy, Paul and some other prisoners were handed over to a centurion named Julius, who belonged to the Imperial Regiment. We boarded a ship from Adramyttium about to sail for ports along the coast of the province of Asia, and we put out to sea. Aristarchus, a Macedonian from Thessalonica, was with us. The next day we landed at Sidon; and Julius, in kindness to Paul, allowed him to go to his friends so they might provide for his needs. From there we put out to sea again and passed to the lee of Cyprus because the winds were against us. When we had sailed across the open sea off the coast of Cilicia and Pamphylia, we landed at Myra in Lycia.

/Finally Paul went to Rome as a prisoner./ This was the chance that God gave Paul to spread the gospel in Rome./ Paul did not need to pay for the fee for transportation./ The centurion even protected Paul the entire way.

/Here it says, "We."/ Luke who wrote Acts was with Paul./ "Aristarchus" was there as well. / Acts 19:29/20:4 /Colossians 4:10/Philemon1:24/ It may have been an encouragement to Paul that his companions could be with him.

/There was a ship from Adramyttium./ It was a name of the port of Asia Minor.

/The name of the ship was the name of a place./ "Myra" was the shore of Lycia.

/Verses 6-8. /There the centurion found an Alexandrian ship sailing for Italy and put us on board. We made slow headway for many days and had difficulty arriving off Cnidus. When the wind did not allow us to hold our course, we sailed to the lee of Crete, opposite Salmone. We moved along the coast with difficulty and came to a place called Fair Havens, near the town of Lasea.

/The centurion found an Alexandrian ship sailing for Italy./ At that time, Rome provided crops from Egypt ./ The ship transported crops./ The ship had arrived at Fair Havens.

/The island of Crete is located 100 kilometers south from Greece./ Fair Havens is located south of the island./ You can see on the map their travel route, in which they went from Caesarea to

Sidon, from Sidon through Cyprus to the shore of Crete.

/The ship met a storm here./The ship met a storm at Crete, arrived at the Malta, and from there they went to Rome.

/Verse 9. /Much time had been lost, and sailing had already become dangerous because by now it was after the Fast. So Paul warned them,

/The period of fasting for the Jews was around July 10./ The period was from mid-September to early October in our current calendar. / It was a very dangerous period for sailing.

/Verses 10-13. /"Men, I can see that our voyage is going to be disastrous and bring great loss to ship and cargo, and to our own lives also." But the centurion, instead of listening to what Paul said, followed the advice of the pilot and of the owner of the ship. Since the harbor was unsuitable to winter in, the majority decided that we should sail on, hoping to reach Phoenix and winter there. This was a harbor in Crete, facing both southwest and northwest. When a gentle south wind began to blow, they thought they had obtained what they wanted; so they weighed anchor and sailed along the shore of Crete.

/Paul revealed God's will to the people./ Paul said that this voyage was going to be disastrous and would bring great loss to ship and cargo, and to their lives./ Therefore, Paul insisted that they stay for the winter in Fair Havens.

/However, the people didn't listen./ Rather, the centurion followed the advice of the captain and the owner of the ship instead of listening to Paul./ Because the harbor was unsuitable to spend the winter in, they decided to set sail for Phoenix and winter there.

/However, they met the storm on the way to Phoenix./ There were reasons why they almost died./ First, the people believed the pilot and the owner of the ship.

/Paul was a man who spoke God's will./ However, the people believed in the wisdom of men more than the word of God./The pilot and owner of the ship were experts in sailing./ They had much experience.

/However, their skills fell short./Human experiences and abilities are not the answer to all problems./Education,/authority,/or experiences,/do not help us solve problems in life.

/Even Peter who grew up in the sea of Galilee was caught helpless in a storm there./Then Jesus saved Peter./When we face hardships in life, we cannot rely only on human experiences.

/We must solely follow God's word and seek to do His will./The second reason why the ship was in danger was that they did not want to wait the winter./They wanted to go to Phoenix where it was warmer so that they could stay comfortably.

/We cannot simply pick up and leave our current positions just because things are uncomfortable./We must stay if God tells us to stay no matter how difficult it may get./What was

the third reason for their disaster?

/They followed the opinion of the crowd./The majority's opinion is not always right./We must follow the word of God, whether we are a majority or a minority.

/Verses 14-15. /Before very long, a wind of hurricane force, called the "northeaster," swept down from the island. The ship was caught by the storm and could not head into the wind; so we gave way to it and were driven along.

/They came upon a hurricane./This was also called the Northeaster./They were driven by a strong wind./It was the force of a hurricane. /They faced a huge storm because they left Fair Havens.

/Verses 16-17. /As we passed to the lee of a small island called Cauda, we were hardly able to make the lifeboat secure. When the men had hoisted it aboard, they passed ropes under the ship itself to hold it together. Fearing that they would run aground on the sandbars of Syrtis, they lowered the sea anchor and let the ship be driven along.

/They passed an island called Cauda./Cauda was 35 kilometers from the island of Crete./They dropped their anchor there./Then they were driven by the winds.

/Here, Syrtis was a name of a sandy beach (the quicksands)./It was a sandy beach./They did not want to get stuck in sand so they lowered their anchor and let the ship be driven by the wind.

/Verses 18-20. /We took such a violent battering from the storm that the next day they began to throw the cargo overboard. On the third day, they threw the ship's tackle overboard with their own hands. When neither sun nor stars appeared for many days and the storm continued raging, we finally gave up all hope of being saved.

/Because the storm raged on they threw all the cargo overboard./They even threw the ship's tackle overboard./They did not see the sun or the stars for many days./They lost all hope of being saved.

/There are many ways to come to ruins in the world./It is a dangerous world./We do not know when we will die./There is no use for expensive stuff./We will not need gold or jewelry when we are dead.

/What is important is that we trust in God and look toward heaven./Gold cannot save us./It cannot give us eternal life.

/It doesn't matter if one is highly educated./It doesn't matter if one has authority. /Both the rich and the poor will die.

/Verse 21. /After the men had gone a long time without food, Paul stood up before them and said: "Men, you should have taken my advice not to sail from Crete; then you would have spared yourselves this damage and loss.



/Paul spoke to the people./He said, "Men, you should have taken my advice not to sail from Crete."/He taught them to repent./He told them to reflect on their wrongdoings.

/Then, Paul told them not to worry./He said that God appeared to him in the night and said, "Do not be afraid, Paul. You must stand trial before Caesar."/He told everyone on the ship that not one person would perish.

/They listened to Paul and were comforted./They became hopeful./Paul gave hope to the people on the ship.

/No matter what deadly situation we may face, there is hope if we believe in God./There is life in God./Life and death are in God's hands.

/Jonah came out of the belly of the fish./The disciples came out alive in the storm through the Lord's power./God knows even the number of hairs on our heads./We can even come out alive from the lions' den through God's power.

/Verses 27-29. /On the fourteenth night we were still being driven across the Adriatic Sea, when about midnight the sailors sensed they were approaching land. They took soundings and found that the water was a hundred and twenty feet deep. A short time later they took soundings again and found it was ninety feet deep. Fearing that we would be dashed against the rocks, they dropped four anchors from the stern and prayed for daylight.

/It was now the fourteenth night./It was 800 kilometers from Fair Havens to Malta./They arrived in 14 days./The Adriatic Sea is mentioned here./This sea was located between Africa and Greece./The sailors took soundings there.

/Verses 30-32. /In an attempt to escape from the ship, the sailors let the lifeboat down into the sea, pretending they were going to lower some anchors from the bow. Then Paul said to the centurion and the soldiers, "Unless these men stay with the ship, you cannot be saved." So the soldiers cut the ropes that held the lifeboat and let it fall away.

/The sailors tried to escape from the ship./They pretended to lower the anchors and tried to escape on the lifeboat./Paul reported this to the centurion./He said that they would not survive unless the men stayed on the ship.

/There was no way to steer the ship without the sailors./The sailors were wicked./They were selfish./They were cowardly./They wanted to save themselves./However, Paul kept them from escaping.

/Paul was not selfish here, but he thought about others and how he could save them./We must not be self-centered but think of the community./We must seek what is best for the whole church.

/Also, we must think about our country./Individuals will succeed if the church succeeds. /The people will be well if the nations are well.

/Verse 33. /Just before dawn Paul urged them all to eat. "For the last fourteen days," he said, "you have been in constant suspense and have gone without food-- you haven't eaten anything.

/Just before dawn, Paul told the people to take food./He encouraged them to have strength./He said that they would not lose even one strand of hair.

/Then Paul took bread and gave thanks to God./Paul shared the gospel./He introduced God to the people./Then all the people listened.

/God gave Paul the opportunity to be his witness./Paul considered the lives of the people precious./Paul did everything to save their lives.

/Verses 37-38. /Altogether there were 276 of us on board. When they had eaten as much as they wanted, they lightened the ship by throwing the grain into the sea.

/All 276 people were saved./Not one of these people perished./That is why true leaders are important. /True leaders like Paul are important.

/Through this one person many people were saved./In the church today, leaders are important./Even in the family, a leader with faith is important./A person with faith, that one person is important.

/Many people can be saved through just one person./Then, when daylight came, the people were able to see the land./They cut the ropes to the anchor./They loosened the sails./They pulled up anchor and went toward the beach.

/The ship fell into a place where two streams converged./Hence, the ship got stuck on the land./Then the ship began to break apart by the waves.

/Verses 42-43. /The soldiers planned to kill the prisoners to prevent any of them from swimming away and escaping. But the centurion wanted to spare Paul's life and kept them from carrying out their plan. He ordered those who could swim to jump overboard first and get to land.

/Then the soldiers planned to kill the prisoners to prevent them from escaping./This was a big hardship./The soldiers betrayed the grace they received.

/They were saved from the storm because of Paul, but now they were trying to kill him./However, the centurion prevented the soldiers from doing this so that he could save Paul.

/Anyone who could swim swam to shore./Others held on to pieces of broken wood and reached shore.

/Verse 44. /The rest were to get there on planks or on pieces of the ship. In this way everyone reached land in safety.

/All 276 people reached shore./They reached the island of Malta./In this way, God saved those

people./They were saved by the leadership of the apostle Paul.

/Paul speaks about this incident in 1 Corinthians 11:25./Mark 4:35-37/In life we sometimes face great storms./We must repent and stand on God's word./We must trust in God.

/Leaders like Paul must stand firm in faith./We must lead the way to salvation to those who are being tossed in the storm./We must show the way to salvation./Nations are like ships./Churches are like ships.

/families are like ships./We must not lose hope during the storm and depend on God./Life and death are in God's hands./In those time, we must depend on God and call on him for help and meet him.

/Then God will rescue us even in hopeless situations./God will rescue us even when we walk through the valley of shadow of death.

/Here we will conclude the nineteenth lecture on Acts./Thank you.