

The Book of Acts Study Notes

CHAPTER 23

Paul before the council (Acts 22:30-23:11)

- ❖ Vs. 1-2: Paul's good conscience before God – Phil. 3:20; Acts 24:16; 2 Cor. 1:12; 2 Cor. 4:1-2
 - Being aligned with God doesn't guarantee you will align with man
- ❖ Ananias the high priest had Paul struck on the mouth – 1 Kings 22:24; Jer. 20:2; John 18:19-23
 - Vs. 3:
 - God shall smite thee – Jer. 28:15-17
 - Actions not aligned with words – Lev. 19:35; Deut. 25:1-3; John 7:51
 - Calls Ananias whitewashed – Mat. 23:27
 - Vs. 4-5: Paul didn't know Ananias was the high priest – Ex. 22:28; Lev. 5:17-18; Eccl. 10:20
- ❖ You have to have a strategy – Vs. 6-11
 - Used their internal conflict to his advantage
 - Paul identified himself as a Pharisee
 - Sadducees: they were a small, elite group composed of the priestly family and were known for what they denied. They rejected all aspects of the supernatural: miracles, angels, and the resurrection. They only accepted first 5 books of Old Testament. (Nelson's KJV Study Bible)
 - Pharisees: accepted all of the Old Testament but also much tradition. Regarded the Oral Law handed down since Moses. (Nelson's KJV Study Bible)
- ❖ Paul hears from the Lord concerning Rome – vs. 11

The Plot to Kill Paul (vs. 12-22)

- ❖ Some people will kill themselves to kill you – vs. 12
 - More than 40 men
- ❖ Why are folk comfortable talking to you about their evil plot? (Vs. 14) – Psalm 1
- ❖ Paul's Nephew (vs. 16-22)
 - Are you willing to speak up when you know another believer is in danger?

Paul Sent to Felix (Vs. 23-35)