

The Foundation of the Church: “Built on Submissive Suffering”

Acts 21:1-36

November 30, 2025

- I. Journey to Jerusalem (1-16)
 - a. Places
 - b. People
 - c. Prophecy
- II. Arrival in Jerusalem (17-26)
 - a. Welcome (17-20a)
 - b. Warning (20b-22)
 - c. Wisdom (23-26)
- III. Arrested in Jerusalem (27-36)
 - a. Accused (27-29)
 - b. Assaulted (30-31a)
 - c. Arrested (31b-36)

LET’S GO DEEPER:

1. What repeated themes do we see as Paul travels to Jerusalem in verses 1-16? How does the tension build?
2. How do we often respond to suffering in our lives? What does it mean for Paul and the church to “submit” to suffering in verses 13-14?
3. What concern do the leaders of the Jerusalem church have in verses 20-21, and how do they recommend that Paul address those concerns? What do we learn from Paul’s response?
4. How do we see the submissive suffering of Jesus reflected in Paul’s life in this chapter?
5. What does this chapter teach us about what God can do when we submit to the suffering he brings into our life? (Consider Colossians 1:24, Romans 5:3-5, James 1:2-4)