

*“Be My Witnesses:” An Exposition of Acts*  
***For God’s Sake, Defend Yourself!***

Acts 22:1–29  
(Page 930 in Chair Bible)  
The Lord’s Day Morning  
June 12, 2016

Last week, in Acts 21, we saw how Paul was ready to be imprisoned and die for Jesus, because *Jesus is worth it and people need Jesus!* He practiced an *inconvenient Christianity*, willing to follow Christ no matter what. In Acts 22, Paul stands beaten, bleeding, chained, and under arrest. Yet instead of using the Roman legal system to conveniently escape to personal safety, he uses it to proclaim the gospel to the people of Jerusalem. Instead of retreating with fear or retaliating with anger, he shows us how to *resist with respect*. In his example, we find three timely exhortations:

1. Courageously stand by your \_\_\_\_\_ (1–2; cf. Phil. 3:1–11).
  - 1.1 Before I knew Jesus, I sincerely and wrongly trusted in my own righteousness \_\_\_\_\_ (1–5).
  - 1.2 I was persuaded by the evidence that Jesus is God and \_\_\_\_\_ (6–11).
  - 1.3 I trusted only in the righteousness and substitutionary sacrifice of Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ (12–16).
  - 1.4 Now that I know Jesus, I must bear credible witness \_\_\_\_\_ (17–21)!
2. Cleverly avoid unnecessary \_\_\_\_\_ for your testimony (22–25).
3. Courteously invoke the privileges of \_\_\_\_\_ to publicly declare your testimony (26–29).