

## 1. Introduction

- Paul was hated by the religious leaders and held in custody/prison in the fortress in Caesarea.
- He has been in custody for 2 years.

## 2. Text

### Acts 25:1-8

- Paul lived with a clear **conscience**.
  - Doing what's right and having a clear conscience is a beautiful thing and a choice we each have every day.

### Acts 25:9

- Festus wanted to please the **Jews**, which ultimately was a choice to please **himself**
- By contrast, Paul made choices that revealed his desire to please **the Lord**.

### Acts 25:10-12

- Paul used the rights as a Roman citizen and appealed to **Caesar**. This was the Roman Emperor, Nero, in Rome.
- Paul was not **passive**. He stepped out in **faith** and made a decision based on the direction he believed the Lord was leading him.
  - And there comes a time when God wants us to step out in faith and just start moving in the general direction you think He's leading, and once we start moving, He steers us on to the path He wants us to be on.

### Acts 25:13-22

- Paul will stand trial yet again, and this time it will be before King Agrippa.

### 3. Application

So, what can we learn from Paul? How should we live in a world of religious and political disfunction where religious leaders may look down at us or judge us, and where political leaders may make decisions that benefit themselves and rob us of our liberties?

- We should live with a **clear** conscience before the Lord, making decisions that **please** Him above all else.