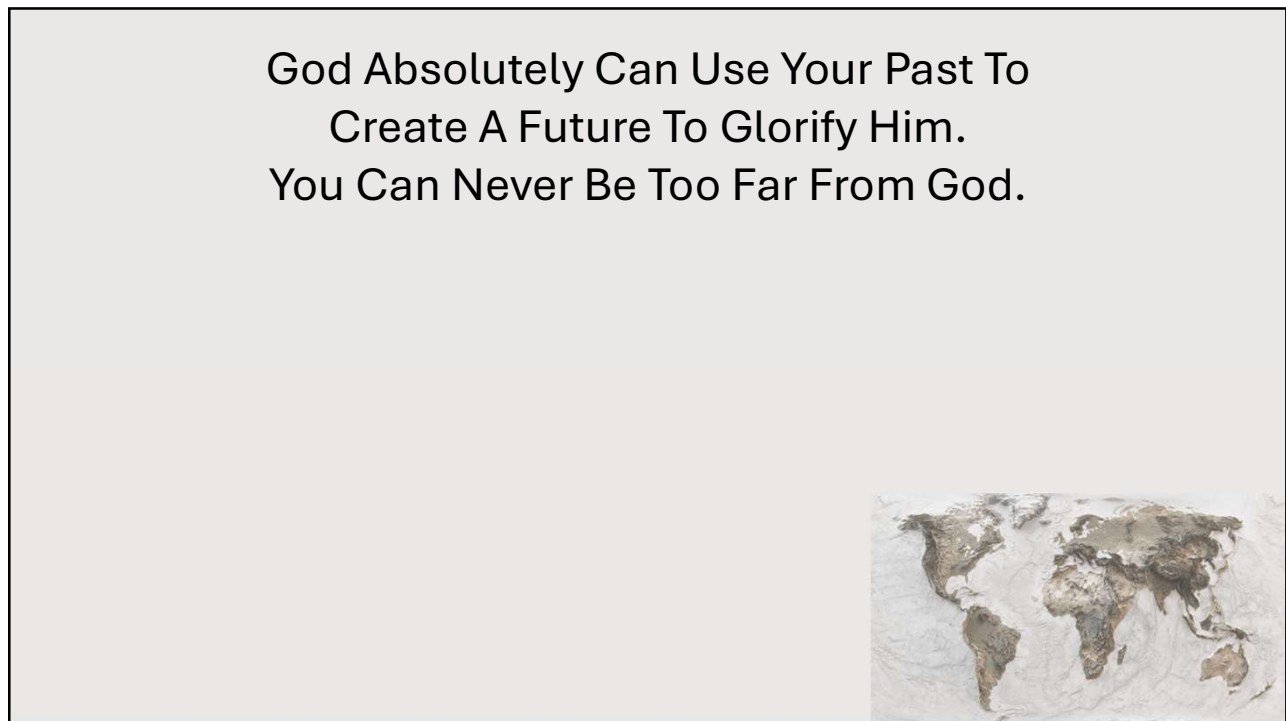


43



44

Acts 21:27-22:29



45

Sought After - vs. 27-36

False Accusations

- “The Jews from Asia”
 - Devote radical Jews desiring to end the testimony of the church
 - Defending a religion that radically changed
 - Hardened hearts to the truth of Jesus Christ



46

Sought After - vs. 27-36

False Accusations

- “The Jews from Asia”
- Accused Paul of teaching against the Law of Moses
 - “Everyone... everywhere”
 - Against the temple



47

Sought After - vs. 27-36

False Accusations

- “The Jews from Asia”
- Accused Paul of teaching against the Law of Moses
- Holding to the Old Testament covenant
 - Gentiles did not have full access to the temple



48

Sought After - vs. 27-36

False Accusations

Mob Mayhem

- The entire city stirred up
- Seizing Paul with an attempt to kill him
- Dragged out of the temple
- City on lockdown



49

Sought After - vs. 27-36

False Accusations

Mob Mayhem

Confusion Confronted

- Roman rule quickly sought to end uprising
- Tribune of a cohort – thousand soldiers under his command
- Many centurions within the cohort over one hundred soldiers
- Bond Paul to remove him from the angry mob
- Carried by the soldiers



50

Matthew 5:43–45

“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.”



51

Spoken Testimony - vs. 21:37-22:21

Setting The Record Straight

- Mistaken identity
 - Extra Biblical historical note:
Josephus also mentions the revolt led by an Egyptian Jew. It had been put down by the Roman governor Felix, with the Egyptian fleeing and his movement scattered. Josephus also spoke of the Assassins, or “dagger men” who terrorized Roman sympathizers by stabbing them under the cover of crowds. (ESV Study Notes)
- Many other activities both politically and religiously



52

Spoken Testimony - vs. 21:37-22:21

Setting The Record Straight

- Mistaken identity
- Roots identified
 - Paul is from Tarsus in Cilicia
 - Historically significant city
 - Militarily and commerce center
 - Philosophers from this town



53

Spoken Testimony - vs. 21:37-22:21

Setting The Record Straight

Life Before Christ

- Born Jewish – connection to heritage
- Educated by Gamaliel – respected religious teacher of the Law
- Zealous for Judaism demonstrated by hatred for believers in Christ
- Persecuted and approved of executions of believers



54

Spoken Testimony - vs. 21:37-22:21

Setting The Record Straight

Life Before Christ

Meeting Christ

- Stopped on his way to Damacus to arrest more believers
- Encountered Jesus Christ
- “Why are you persecuting me?”
- Strict instructions to follow in Damacus
- Salvation, calling, and baptism



55

Spoken Testimony - vs. 21:37-22:21

Setting The Record Straight

Life Before Christ

Meeting Christ

Calling Clarified

- Escaping danger
- Reminding God of his past
- Go to far away to the Gentiles
- Time frame – first mention of Paul AD33... now AD 57



56

What Causes You To Neglect Sharing Your Story Of Christ In You? Who Can You Share Your Testamony With Today?



57

Spared Execution - vs. 22-29

Anger And Hatred On Full Display

- Reacting to Paul's testimony
 - "Away with such a fellow from the earth! For he should not be allowed to live."
 - Driven by hatred for Paul's testimony about Jesus
 - Driven by hatred and racism towards the Gentiles
 - Outward displays of inward heart



58

Spared Execution - vs. 22-29

Anger And Hatred On Full Display

Unusual Attempt

- Plan to flog the truth out of Paul
- Positioning Paul to prepare flogging



59

Spared Execution - vs. 22-29

Anger And Hatred On Full Display

Unusual Attempt

No Small Fact

- Yes... Jewish
- Yes... previous Pharisee
- But... Roman citizen by birth



60

Spared Execution - vs. 22-29

Anger And Hatred On Full Display

Unusual Attempt

No Small Fact

Special Protection For Roman Citizens Over Conquered People

- Roman citizens could not be flogged without a complete trial
- Against Roman law to bind a citizen to prepare for flogging



61

Do You Believe Jesus Is Worth Sharing?
Do You Truly Love God?
AND
Do You Truly Love Others?



62