



ACTS

**WE ARE WITNESSES
THE CHURCH IN THE ENDS OF THE EARTH
ACTS 21:17-36**

17 When we had come to Jerusalem, the brothers received us gladly. **18** On the following day Paul went in with us to James, and all the elders were present.

ACTS 21:17-18

¹⁹ After greeting them, he related one by one the things that God had done among the Gentiles through his ministry. ²⁰ And when they heard it, they glorified God. And they said to him, “You see, brother, how many thousands there are among the Jews of those who have believed. They are all zealous for the law,

ACTS 21:19-20

21 and they have been told about you that you teach all the Jews who are among the Gentiles to forsake Moses, telling them not to circumcise their children or walk according to our customs.

22 What then is to be done? They will certainly hear that you have come.

ACTS 21:21-22

23 Do therefore what we tell you. We have four men who are under a vow; **24** take these men and purify yourself along with them and pay their expenses, so that they may shave their heads. Thus all will know that there is nothing in what they have been told about you, but that you yourself also live in observance of the law.

ACTS 21:23-24

25 But as for the Gentiles who have believed, we have sent a letter with our judgment that they should abstain from what has been sacrificed to idols, and from blood, and from what has been strangled, and from sexual immorality.”

ACTS 21:25

26 Then Paul took the men, and the next day he purified himself along with them and went into the temple, giving notice when the days of purification would be fulfilled and the offering presented for each one of them. **27** When the seven days were almost completed, the Jews from Asia, seeing him in the temple, stirred up the whole crowd and laid hands on him,

ACTS 21:26-27

28 crying out, “Men of Israel, help! This is the man who is teaching everyone everywhere against the people and the law and this place. Moreover, he even brought Greeks into the temple and has defiled this holy place.” **29** For they had previously seen Trophimus the Ephesian with him in the city, and they supposed that Paul had brought him into the temple.

ACTS 21:28-29

30 Then all the city was stirred up, and the people ran together. They seized Paul and dragged him out of the temple, and at once the gates were shut. **31** And as they were seeking to kill him, word came to the tribune of the cohort that all Jerusalem was in confusion.

ACTS 21:30-31

32 He at once took soldiers and centurions and ran down to them. And when they saw the tribune and the soldiers, they stopped beating Paul. **33** Then the tribune came up and arrested him and ordered him to be bound with two chains. He inquired who he was and what he had done.

ACTS 21:32-33

34 Some in the crowd were shouting one thing, some another. And as he could not learn the facts because of the uproar, he ordered him to be brought into the barracks.

ACTS 21:34

³⁵ And when he came to the steps, he was actually carried by the soldiers because of the violence of the crowd, ³⁶ for the mob of the people followed, crying out, “Away with him!”

ACTS 21:35-36



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1. What was Paul's motivation to return to Jerusalem?

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- 2. What was the motivation behind the elders' advice to Paul?**

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- 2. What was the motivation behind the elders' advice to Paul?**
- 3. What was the motivation behind Paul's obedience to the elders' advice?**

4. What was the motivation behind the actions from the church in Jerusalem?

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- 5. What was the motivation behind the Roman tribune arresting Paul?**

Final Thoughts

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- 1. What are the motivating factors behind our decisions/actions?**

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- 2. Remain committed to doing what's right, no matter the cost**

Final Thoughts (continued)

- 3. Immediate results don't always display the fruit of a right decision**



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