

JESUS CONTINUED

BY THE SPIRIT, THROUGH THE CHURCH, IN THE WORLD

Paul on the Defense

Acts 21:37-22:29 (930)

1. Paul does not give up on the hard cases (Romans 10:1-4)

We don't give up on the hard cases because we trust the sovereign power of God, and his mercy to hardened sinners – because we experienced it ourselves!

2. Paul's message of Gentile inclusion outrages the Jews

Paul was accused of teaching against the people and the law and this place (the temple). Acts 21:28

God's inclusion of all nations is our joy and hope (Ephesians 3:6)

3. God uses Roman justice to provide an escape for Paul

A. Accusations that Christianity undermines society or government are wrong. Christianity brings good to a nation, a city, a community. (1 Peter 2:12)

B. God has established earthly government and earthly justice, and he uses it for good, and so that the gospel can go forth. (Philippians 3:20)

Sermon Study Guide

(Reminder: The purpose of the questions is to explore the text and themes of the sermon. **Do not feel a need to go through all of the questions, but try to discuss/study some in each category.** The goal is to stimulate discussion/reflection and transformation related to the sermon text and themes.)

1. What evidences of grace have you seen since we last met?
2. What stuck out to you from the sermon Sunday?
3. What sin did the Holy Spirit convict you of in this sermon?
4. How were you encouraged by this passage?
5. How does this passage connect to or inform our understanding of the gospel?