

# ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

## Lesson #22 -Paul's Protection

Scripture Reading: Acts 23:11-15

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### Introduction:

1. Jesus is with His people. He never leaves us nor forsakes us!
2. Jesus protected Paul from the plot against him.

### **I. PLOT WAS DISCOVERED**

- A. ASSURANCE OF JESUS -vs. 11
- B. WICKED OATH -vs. 12-15
  1. More than forty men would not eat or drink until they killed Paul
  2. They got the chief priest and elders involved in their plot against him
- C. PAUL'S NEPHEW -vs. 16-22
  1. He tells the commander of the plot against Paul
  2. The commander takes the word seriously and takes the appropriate actions

### **II. PLOT WAS ADVERTED**

- A. THE PROTECTION -vs. 23, 24
  1. Plenty of protection was provided to secure Paul against any enemy
  2. Paul was a Roman citizen and therefore was protected -Note: vs. 27
- B. THE LETTER -vs. 25-30
  1. Paul did nothing deserving of death or chains -vs. 29
  2. His accusers would be sent to Felix -vs. 30
- C. THE MEETING -vs. 31-35
  1. Felix asks what province he was from -vs. 34
  2. He follows proper procedure by waiting for his accusers to arrive -vs. 35
  3. He is kept in Herod's Praetorium -vs. 35
    - a. This was built by Herod the Great
    - b. Paul was kept under guard in the palace
    - c. He was treated well due to his Roman citizenship and no cause of death found in him.

### **III. PLOT WAS INEFFECTIVE**

- A. THE DEVIL WORKS AGAINST THE CHURCH
  1. He tries to silent the church
  2. We too can use the rules of government to our advantage
    - a. Freedom of speech and religion
    - b. "Separation of church and state" originally meant the government would not interfere with the church.

## B. THE DEVIL WORKS AGAINST CHRISTIANS

1. Discouragement
2. Remember, we have victory in Jesus -Ro 8:37

### Conclusion:

1. Remember, no matter what happens in life, God is always in control.
2. Victory is already ours in Jesus!