

ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

Lesson #23 -A More Convenient Time

Scripture Reading: Acts 24:24-27

Introduction:

1. Many believe they won't have to answer before God, or they have plenty of time to prepare.
2. Some seek a more convenient time to hear and obey the gospel.

I. DISTURBED BY THE MESSAGE

A. RIGHTEOUSNESS

1. Felix was unrighteous
 - a. He killed a high priest
 - b. He had taken bribes
2. The world is filled with unrighteous behavior today. We teach as we have opportunity.

B. SELF-CONTROL

1. Felix was caught in a web of unbridled lust
 - a. Drusilla had left her husband for Felix
 - b. She was known for her "gifted beauty"
2. We today are surrounded by a culture given to unbridled lust / passion. Like Paul, we continue to preach and teach others the truth of God's word.

C. JUDGMENT TO COME

1. Perhaps Felix and Drusilla thought they were not accountable for their actions. Paul taught them that they were.
2. No one can escape the Judgment Seat of Christ -2Co 5:10; He 9:27

II. DISTRACTED FROM THE MESSAGE

A. FELIX HOPED FOR MONEY

1. He knew Paul had brought alms for the church in Jerusalem
 - a. Paul must have money or friends with money who could produce a bribe and set him free.
 - b. Paul would not have done this. His stance with God was more important than his freedom.
2. Felix and Paul conversed often during the two year period.

B. PROPER MOTIVATION FOR CHRISTIAN LIVING

1. Some see godliness as a form of gain -1Ti 6:5
2. Some preach from the wrong motivation -Ph 1:15, 16
3. We live godly so that we can appear before the Judgment Seat prepared by righteousness and bridled by self-control.

Conclusion:

1. We must hold fast to the message of Jesus
2. We must always guard the motivation of our hearts before the Lord.