

Acts 24

King James Version (KJV)

24 And after five days Ananias the high priest descended with the elders, and with a certain orator named Tertullus, who informed the governor against Paul. (Ananias hired a lawyer to do the smooth talking)

² And when he was called forth, Tertullus began to accuse him, saying, Seeing that by thee we enjoy great quietness, and that very worthy deeds are done unto this nation by thy providence, (He's buttering up the Roman governor. This is Satan's MO)

³ We accept it always, and in all places, most noble Felix, with all thankfulness.

⁴ Notwithstanding, that I be not further tedious unto thee, I pray thee that thou wouldest hear us of thy clemency a few words. (He'll make it quick so as not to take the governor's valuable time. This is all flattery)

⁵ For we have found this man a pestilent fellow, and a mover of sedition among all the Jews throughout the world, and a ringleader of the sect of the Nazarenes: (None of this is true. Paul didn't preach sedition against the Romans, nor did he stir up any trouble. He was in the temple purifying himself according to the vow of a nazarite)

⁶ Who also hath gone about to profane the temple: whom we took, and would have judged according to our law. (We wanted to kill him)

⁷ But the chief captain Lysias came upon us, and with great violence took him away out of our hands, (Now he's accusing Lysias of interfering. All he did was to break up a lynch mob, trying to commit murder. Lysias' job was to keep the peace)

⁸ Commanding his accusers to come unto thee: by examining of whom thyself mayest take knowledge of all these things, whereof we accuse him. (They were making such a strong case against Paul to distract Felix from judging them for having made all the trouble)

⁹ And the Jews also assented, saying that these things were so. (These are false witnesses to the lawyer's lies. These are no doubt, Kenites)

¹⁰ Then Paul, after that the governor had beckoned unto him to speak, answered, Forasmuch as I know that thou hast been of many years a judge unto this nation, I do the more cheerfully answer for myself:
(Paul doesn't need a smooth talking lawyer to defend him)

¹¹ Because that thou mayest understand, that there are yet but twelve days since I went up to Jerusalem for to worship. (He just got there 12 days ago. How could he have stirred up so much trouble)

¹² And they neither found me in the temple disputing with any man, neither raising up the people, neither in the synagogues, nor in the city:

¹³ Neither can they prove the things whereof they now accuse me.
(They're lying)

¹⁴ But this I confess unto thee, that after the way which they call heresy, so worship I the God of my fathers, believing all things which are written in the law and in the prophets: (after the way = after the Christian way)

¹⁵ And have hope toward God, which they themselves also allow, that there shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust.
(Paul spoke the same doctrine as the Pharisees believed)

¹⁶ And herein do I exercise myself, to have always a conscience void to offence toward God, and toward men. (Paul wouldn't offend anyone purposely)

¹⁷ Now after many years I came to bring alms to my nation, and offerings. (Felix having been governor for many years understood the vow of a Nazarite that the Jews followed)

¹⁸ Whereupon certain Jews from Asia found me purified in the temple, neither with multitude, nor with tumult. (Kenites)

¹⁹ Who ought to have been here before thee, and object, if they had ought against me. (If they have a case against Paul, they should make that case themselves in front of the governor, and not hired this slick lawyer)

²⁰ Or else let these same here say, if they have found any evil doing in me, while I stood before the council,

²¹ Except it be for this one voice, that I cried standing among them, Touching the resurrection of the dead I am called in question by you this day. (Paul spoke of the resurrection of the dead before the Sadducees. That's all he did. That wasn't not a crime against Rome)

²² And when Felix heard these things, having more perfect knowledge of that way, he deferred them, and said, When Lysias the chief captain shall come down, I will know the uttermost of your matter. (Felix knew all about Christianity. He'll wait for Lysias to arrive to hear all sides of this)

²³ And he commanded a centurion to keep Paul, and to let him have liberty, and that he should forbid none of his acquaintance to minister or come unto him. (Felix knew Paul was being set up by this mob. He gave Paul the privileges of a guest, not of a prisoner)

²⁴ And after certain days, when Felix came with his wife Drusilla, which was a Jewess, he sent for Paul, and heard him concerning the faith in Christ. (Paul taught them the Gospel. He never stopped teaching those that wanted to learn)

²⁵ And as he reasoned of righteousness, temperance, and judgment to come, Felix trembled, and answered, Go thy way for this time; when I have a convenient season, I will call for thee. (The truth of God's Word shook him. His spiritual eyes were opening. There was nothing in Christianity that went against Roman law)

²⁶ He hoped also that money should have been given him of Paul, that he might loose him: wherefore he sent for him the oftener, and communed with him. (A bond would have set Paul free. There was no bond, so he couldn't release Paul. So meanwhile, Felix took advantage and learned much from Paul about the Gospel)

²⁷ But after two years Porcius Festus came into Felix' room: and Felix, willing to shew the Jews a pleasure, left Paul bound. (Felix's duty is to keep the peace, so he has to somewhat appease the crooked Jews) (Porcius Festus = pig like and festival = pig fest)

(Following this, Felix was called to Rome. The Jewish priests (Kenites) made a big deal about his protecting Paul and learning about Christianity. He was punished by Caesar and his career was over. He died in disgrace)