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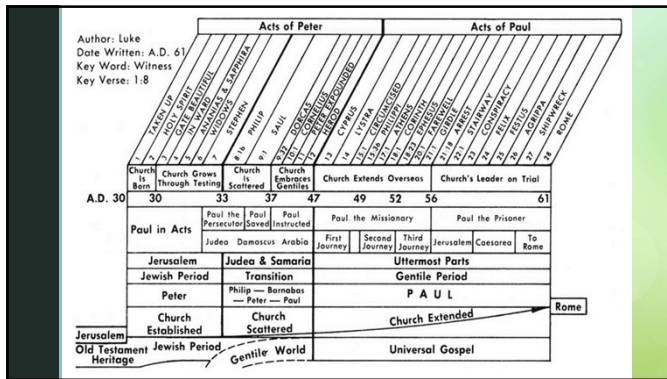
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4

Acts 24:1-4 <sup>1</sup> Now after five days Ananias the high priest came down with the elders and a certain orator named Tertullus. These gave evidence to the governor against Paul. <sup>2</sup> And when he was called upon, Tertullus began his accusation, saying: "Seeing that through you we enjoy great peace, and prosperity is being brought to this nation by your foresight, <sup>3</sup> we accept it always and in all places, most noble Felix, with all thankfulness. <sup>4</sup> Nevertheless, not to be tedious to you any further, I beg you to hear, by your courtesy, a few words from us.

- Who is Tertullus?
- What is the strategy of Tertullus?
- Why should Christians never use flattery?

5

Acts 24:5-9 <sup>5</sup> For we have found this man a plague, a creator of dissension among all the Jews throughout the world, and a ringleader of the sect of the Nazarenes. <sup>6</sup> He even tried to profane the temple, and we seized him, and wanted to judge him according to our law. <sup>7</sup> But the commander Lysias came by and with great violence took him out of our hands, <sup>8</sup> commanding his accusers to come to you. By examining him yourself you may ascertain all these things of which we accuse him." <sup>9</sup> And the Jews also assented, maintaining that these things were so.

- What 4 charges are brought against Paul?
- Why is the previous charge of bringing a Gentile into the temple not presented here?
- What is the meaning of the charge of being a creator of dissension?
- What evidence was presented against Paul?

6

Acts 24:12-15 <sup>10</sup> Then Paul, after the governor had nodded to him to speak, answered: "Inasmuch as I know that you have been for many years a judge of this nation, I do the more cheerfully answer for myself. <sup>11</sup> because you may ascertain that it is no more than twelve days since I went up to Jerusalem to worship. <sup>12</sup> And they neither found me in the temple disputing with anyone nor inciting the crowd, either in the synagogues or in the city. <sup>13</sup> Nor can they prove the things of which they now accuse me. <sup>14</sup> But this I confess to you, that according to the Way which they call a sect, so I worship the God of my fathers, believing all things which are written in the Law and in the Prophets. <sup>15</sup> I have hope in God, which they themselves also accept, that there will be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and the unjust.

- How does Paul's introduction differ from Tertullus'?
- How does Paul put Felix on the spot in his opening?
- Do you think that Paul actually believed *everything* written in the Law and Prophets?

The Law	History	Poetry	Prophecy
Genesis Exodus Leviticus Numbers Deuteronomy	Joshua Judges Ruth 1 Samuel 2 Samuel 1 Kings 2 Kings 1 Chronicles 2 Chronicles Ezra Nehemiah Esther	Job Psalms Proverbs Ecclesiastes Song of Solomon	Isaiah Jeremiah Lamentations Ezekiel Daniel Hosea Joel Obadiah Jonah Micah Zechariah Malachi

7

Acts 24:16-22 <sup>16</sup> This being so, I myself always strive to have a conscience without offense toward God and men. <sup>17</sup> Now after many years I came to bring alms and offerings to my nation, <sup>18</sup> in the midst of which some Jews from Asia found me purified in the temple, neither with a mob nor with tumult. <sup>19</sup> They ought to have been here before you to object if they had anything against me. <sup>20</sup> Or else let those who are here themselves say if they found any wrongdoing in me while I stood before the council, <sup>21</sup> unless it is for this one statement which I cried out, standing among them, 'Concerning the resurrection of the dead I am being judged by you this day.' "

<sup>22</sup> But when Felix heard these things, having more accurate knowledge of the Way, he adjourned the proceedings and said, "When Lysias the commander comes down, I will make a decision on your case."

- Why is this not a valid trial?
- What is Paul's defense argument?
- What does it mean without "mob nor with tumult"?
- Who is Paul's "nation"?
- What jurisdiction does a Roman judge have over Jewish law?
- What does it mean that Felix had a more accurate knowledge of the Way?
- Why did Felix not render a verdict?

8

Acts 24:23-27 <sup>23</sup> So he commanded the centurion to keep Paul and to let him have liberty, and told him not to forbid any of his friends to provide for or visit him. <sup>24</sup> And after some days, when Felix came with his wife Drusilla, who was Jewish, he sent for Paul and heard him concerning the faith in Christ. <sup>25</sup> Now as he reasoned about righteousness, self-control, and the judgment to come, Felix was afraid and answered, "Go away for now; when I have a convenient time I will call for you." <sup>26</sup> Meanwhile he also hoped that money would be given him by Paul, that he might release him. Therefore he sent for him more often and conversed with him. <sup>27</sup> But after two years Porcius Festus succeeded Felix; and Felix, wanting to do the Jews a favor, left Paul bound.

- Why keep Paul on house arrest when he is clearly innocent of these charges?
- Paul was left here for two years. Why would God leave him there this long?
- Who is Drusilla?
- What 3 things did Paul reason about with Felix and Drusilla and why were they not offended?
- What bombshell does Paul drop on these two?
- Why is it not advisable to wait for a more convenient time?
- What two scenarios may occur at the final judgement for those who do not follow Christ?

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▼ Wrap up and Closing Prayer

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