

Union Bethel AME Church (dial-in and Facebook™ Live)  
 Bible Study Dial-in Number: (425) 436-6260 Access Code: 141997#  
 Tuesday, June 2, 2020, 6:30-7:30 PM

## Acts 28:1-31

Paul reached Rome after 14 days in a storm at sea and shaking off a bite from a poisonous snake. On the way to Rome the group received hospitality from native people. Paul also met with fellow believers who lift his spirit. Paul's captivity in Rome was just as loose as it was in Caesarea. He met with the leaders of the Jewish sect and preached to them. Many do not listen to Paul and he reiterated a prophecy from Isaiah.



## Acts 28:1-6

Paul shakes off a poisonous snake that bit him when building a fire. The natives are amazed that Paul did not die. They proclaim that he must be a god. The Bible does not record the response of Paul to this adoration.

**What is the danger of thinking Paul is a god?**

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### **Acts 28:7-10**

Paul healed the father of the leading man of the island, Publius, who was a gracious host. Many people heard about the healing and came to Paul to be healed. Paul's actions likely added to his reputation and the thought that he was a god.

**Why would Paul not take this opportunity to preach about Jesus?**

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### **Acts 28:11-16**

Paul continued toward Rome in another Alexandrian ship. News of Paul's arrival spreads and believers came to greet him. Paul is encouraged by the presence of believers that traveled great distances to see him.

**Why does Luke, the writer of Acts take the time to tell us Paul was uplifted by the presence of fellow believers?**

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### **Acts 28:17-22**

Paul received a much better welcome in Rome than he did in Jerusalem. No news of Paul had been sent to Jerusalem to interfere with Paul's preaching.

**Why would the Jewish Sanhedrin not send word to Jews in Rome to discredit Paul?**

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### **Acts 28:23-31**

Paul preached about Jesus and many believed. However, many disbelieved and argued with the believers. Paul pronounced a judgment from Isaiah that due to disbelief by the Jewish people, Gentiles would now receive salvation by believing in Christ Jesus. This was a very harsh statement by Paul.

**How would we expect the non-believers to react to Paul's pronouncement from Isaiah?**

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**Would the believers understand that Christ came for salvation for all and not just for the Hebrews?**

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**Why was this important for Rome?**

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