

Union Bethel AME Church (dial-in and Facebook™ Live)  
Bible Study Dial-in Number: (425) 436-6260 Access Code: 141997#  
Tuesday, May 12 and 19, 2020, 6:30-7:30 PM



### **Acts 26:1-32 to 27:1-12**

Paul presents his defense to King Herod Agrippa II. King Herod Agrippa II and his “wife” Berniece were related to Herod the Great, the Roman-appointed Jewish King who killed male babies in an attempt to kill baby Jesus. King Herod Agrippa II was the great grandson of Herod the great. His wife was actually his sister. His other sister was Drusilla, the wife of Governor Felix. King Herod Agrippa II was trained in the Roman royal courts. He had the authority to appoint the high priest as the overseer of the temple in Jerusalem. He was the last Herod to rule in Judea.

### **Acts 26:1-3**

Paul accepted King Agrippa’s invitation to offer a defense. He began with an appeal to the fact that King Herod Agrippa was well acquainted with Jewish customs. Paul let King Herod Agrippa know that to present his case in this manner was seen positively.

### **Why did Paul start his defense with an appeal to King Herod Agrippa?**

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### **Acts 26:4-18**

Paul gave a detailed account of his conversion experience. He specifically pointed out that he traveled outside of Israel to arrest those following Jesus. Paul openly stated that he was wrong and then he presented the gospel to the courtroom.

**What is so powerful about how Paul tells his story?**

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### **Acts 26:19-23**

Paul stated plainly that the Jewish leaders wanted him silenced for speaking the truth about Jesus.

**Did Paul really present a defense or use this as an evangelism moment?**

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### **Acts 26:24-32**

Paul was not crazy as implied by Governor Festus. He seemed to almost convince King Herod Agrippa to repent and accept Jesus. Even with his evangelism and speaking about Jesus, King Herod Agrippa saw no reason to keep Paul imprisoned.

**Why was Paul not set free?**

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### **Acts 27:1-8**

On the way to Rome, Paul was allowed to visit with friends.

**Why would the centurion be nice to Paul?**

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## **Acts 27:9-12**

Paul's journey to Rome was delayed. It took time to get to the defense in front of King Herod Agrippa. Then, when Paul was finally sent to Rome, the ship did not immediately set out. The "Fast" is the Jewish High Holy Day of Yom Kippur. This day was usually in late September or early October. That time of year was the beginning of the stormy season. By November the storms would be so bad that travel was prohibited by sea. Rather than wait, the captain decided that the risk was worth the potential difficulties. He did not want to stay in the current port. Paul warned them but they did not listen.

**When have we procrastinated and caused unnecessary hardship?**

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**Knowing that Paul was a man of God, why did the captain and the other sailors not listen to Paul?**

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