

# **BETWEEN THE FRYING PAN & THE FIRE**

The Acts of the Apostles - Part 51

Acts 23:12-24:9

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*“You will break the bow if you always keep it bent.”*

*“And he called to him two of the centurions, and said, ‘Get two hundred soldiers ready by the third hour of the night to proceed to Caesarea, with seventy horsemen and two hundred spearmen.’ They were also to provide mounts to put Paul on and bring him safely to Felix the governor.”*

Acts 23:23-24 (NASB)

## **1. The \_\_\_\_\_**

*“Claudius Lysias, to the most excellent governor Felix, greetings. When this man was arrested by the Jews and was about to be slain by them, I came upon them with the troops and rescued him, having learned that he was a Roman. And wanting to ascertain the charge for which they were accusing him, I brought him down to their Council; and I found him to be accused over questions about their Law, but under no accusation deserving death or imprisonment. And when I was informed that there would be a plot against the man, I sent him to you at once, also instructing his accusers to bring charges against him before you.”* Acts 23:26-30 (NASB)

*“So the soldiers, in accordance with their orders, took Paul and brought him by night to Antipartis. But the next day, leaving the horsemen to go on with him, they returned to the barracks.”*

Acts 23:31-32 (NASB)

*“And when these had come to Caesarea and delivered the letter to the governor, they also presented Paul to him. And when he had read it, he asked from what province he was; and when he learned that he was from Cilicia, he said, ‘I will give you a hearing after your accusers arrive also,’ giving orders for him to be*

kept in Herod's Praetorium." Acts 23:33-35 (NASB)

these matters, you will be able to ascertain the things of which we accuse him.' And the Jews also joined in the attack, asserting that these things were so." Acts 24:7-9 (NASB)

## 2. His \_\_\_\_\_ present their \_\_\_\_\_.

"And after five days the high priest Ananias came down with some elders, with a certain attorney named Tertullus; and they brought charges to the governor against Paul. And after Paul had been summoned..." Acts 24:1-2a (NASB)

The Greek for "lawyer" literally means: "\_\_\_\_\_"

"...Tertullus began to accuse him, saying to the governor, 'Since we have through you attained much peace, and since by your providence reforms are being carried out for this nation, we acknowledge this in every way and every where, most excellent Felix, with all thankfulness. But, that I may not weary you any further, I beg you to grant us, by your kindness, a brief hearing.'" Acts 24:2b-4 (NASB)

Three charges brought against Paul:

- He was an \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.

"For we have found this man a real pest and a fellow who stirs up dissension among all the Jews throughout the world..." Acts 24:5

- He is a \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_.

"...and a ringleader of the sect of the Nazarenes."  
Acts 24:5c (NASB)

- He was a \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_.

"And he even tried to desecrate the temple; and then we arrested him. [And we wanted to judge him according to our own Law." Acts 24:6 (NASB)

"But Lysias the commander came along, and with much violence took him out of our hands, ordering his accusers to come before you.] And by examining him yourself concerning all

## 3. Two applications in conclusion:

1. Paul \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ and he began to \_\_\_\_\_.
2. When we \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_, we can \_\_\_\_\_  
His \_\_\_\_\_.

"But on the night immediately following, the Lord stood at his side and said, 'Take courage; for as you have solemnly witnessed to My cause at Jerusalem, so you must witness at Rome also.'" Acts 23:11 (NASB)

"That night the Lord came near and spoke to him. 'Keep up your courage, Paul! You have successfully told your story about Me in Jerusalem, and soon you will do the same in Rome.'"  
The Voice