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Acts

Version 33

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Acts

Chapter 1

¹I made the first account, O Theophilus, about all that Jesus began both to do and to teach, ²until that day when he was taken up, having given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen, ³to whom also, after he had suffered, he presented himself living with many proofs, appearing to them for 40 days and speaking things concerning the kingdom of God. ⁴And meeting together with them, he commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to await the promise of the Father, “which you heard from me, ⁵that John indeed baptized with water, but you will be baptized in the Holy Spirit after these not many days.”

⁶They therefore having assembled, they were asking him, saying, “Lord, if you are restoring the kingdom to Israel at this time?” ⁷But he said to them, “It is not for you to know the times or the seasons that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses both in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” ⁹And having said these things, as they were looking, he was raised up, and a cloud hid him from their eyes. ¹⁰And while they were looking intently into heaven as he was going up, and behold, two men stood by them in white clothes. ¹¹And they said, “Men, Galileans, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, thus will come, in which manner you saw him going into heaven.”

¹²Then they returned to Jerusalem from the hill that is called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, having a journey of a Sabbath. ¹³And when they arrived, they went up into the upper chamber where they were staying, both Peter and John, and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot, and Judas of James. ¹⁴They all were continuing unanimously in prayer, with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus and with his brothers.

¹⁵And in those days Peter, having stood up in the midst of the brothers, said (and the multitude of names to the same was about 120), ¹⁶“Men, brothers, it was necessary for the scripture to be fulfilled that the Holy Spirit spoke before by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to the ones who arrested Jesus. ¹⁷For he was numbered with us and received a share of this ministry.” ¹⁸(Now indeed this one bought a field from the wage of unrighteousness, and having fallen headfirst, he burst open in the middle, and all his entrails were poured out. ¹⁹And it became known to all those living in Jerusalem. Therefore that field was called in their own language Akeldama, that is, Field of Blood.) ²⁰“For it is written in the book of Psalms,

‘Let his habitation be made desolate,

and let not one dwelling be in it,’ and

‘Let another take his overseership.’

²¹Therefore it is necessary, of the men who accompanied us during all the time in which the Lord Jesus came in and went out among us, ²²beginning from the baptism of John until the day on which he was taken up from us—one of these {is} to become a witness with us of his resurrection.” ²³And they stood up two, Joseph, the one called Barsabbas, who was named Justus, and Matthias. ²⁴And praying, they said, “You, Lord, heart-knower of all, show which one from these two you have chosen ²⁵to take this place of ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.” ²⁶And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell to Matthias, and he was chosen together with the 11 apostles.

Chapter 2

¹And when the day of Pentecost was completely filled, they were all together to the same. ²And suddenly a sound came from heaven, as of a strong wind being borne along, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting.

³And tongues as if of fire appeared to them, distributing themselves, and they sat upon each one of them. ⁴And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they began to speak in other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them to speak out.

⁵Now there were Jews living in Jerusalem, godly men, from every nation of those under heaven. ⁶And when this sound happened, the multitude came together and was confused, because each one was hearing them speaking in his own language. ⁷And they were all amazed and were marveling, saying, "Behold, are not all these who are speaking Galileans? ⁸And how are we hearing, each in our own language in which we were born? ⁹Parthians and Medes and Elamites, and those inhabiting Mesopotamia, Judea and also Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰Phrygia and also Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya that {are} near Cyrene, and Romans visiting, ¹¹both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians, we are hearing them speaking in our tongues the great things of God." ¹²So they were all amazed and were perplexed, saying one to another, "What does this want to be?" ¹³But others, mocking, were saying, "They are filled with sweet wine."

¹⁴But Peter, having stood with the eleven, raised up his voice and spoke out to them, "Men, Jews, and all who are inhabiting Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and take my words into your ears. ¹⁵For these are not drunk as you are assuming, for it is the third hour of the day. ¹⁶But this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

¹⁷"And it will be in the last days," God says,

"I will pour out from my Spirit on all flesh,

and your sons and your daughters will prophesy

and your young men will see visions

and your old men will dream dreams.

¹⁸And even on my male servants and on my female servants in those days

I will pour out from my Spirit, and they will prophesy.

¹⁹And I will give wonders in the heaven above

and signs on the earth below,

blood and fire and vapor of smoke.

²⁰The sun will be turned to darkness,

and the moon to blood

before the great and remarkable day of the Lord comes.

²¹And it will be, everyone who may call on the name of the Lord will be saved."

²²Men, Israelites, hear these words: Jesus the Nazarene {was} a man attested to you by God with mighty deeds and wonders and signs that God did through him in the midst of you, as you yourselves know. ²³This one, given up by the determined counsel and foreknowledge of God, you killed by the hand of the lawless, having fastened, ²⁴whom God raised up, having loosed the agonies of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it. ²⁵For David says about him,

'I saw the Lord always before me,
for he is at my right so that I should not be moved.

²⁶Because of this, my heart was glad and my tongue exulted.

And indeed, my flesh will also dwell in hope.

²⁷For you will not abandon my soul to Hades,
nor will you allow your Holy One to see decay.

²⁸You made known to me the paths of life;
you will fill me with gladness with your face.'

²⁹Men, brothers, it is possible to speak with confidence to you about the patriarch David, both that he died and {that} he was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. ³⁰Therefore, being a prophet and having known that God had sworn to him with an oath to set from the fruit of his loins upon his throne, ³¹having foreseen this, he spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that neither was he abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see decay.

³²This Jesus, God has raised up, of which we all are witnesses. ³³Therefore, having been exalted to the right of God and having received the promise of the Holy Spirit from the Father, he has poured out this which you both see and hear.

³⁴For David did not ascend to the heavens, but he himself says,

'The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at my right

³⁵until I make your enemies a stool for your feet.'"

³⁶Therefore, let all the house of Israel know certainly that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified."

³⁷And hearing this they were pierced in the heart, and they said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Men, brothers, what should we do?" ³⁸Then Peter said to them, "Repent and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹For the promise is to you and to your children and to all who are at a distance, as many as the Lord our God may call." ⁴⁰And with many other words he testified and urged them, saying, "Be saved from this perverse generation." ⁴¹Therefore, having received his word, they were baptized, and about 3,000 souls were added in that day. ⁴²And they were continuing in the teaching of the apostles and in fellowship, in the breaking of bread and in prayers.

⁴³And fear was coming on every soul, and many wonders and signs were happening through the apostles. ⁴⁴And all those believing were to the same and had all things in common, ⁴⁵and they were selling {their} properties and {their} possessions and they were distributing them to all, as anyone might have need ⁴⁶and, continuing unanimously every day in the temple and breaking bread in each house, they were sharing food with exultation and sincerity of heart, ⁴⁷praising God and having favor with the whole people, and each day the Lord was adding those who were being saved to the same.

Chapter 3

¹Now Peter and John were going up to the temple at the hour of prayer, the ninth hour. ²And a certain man, being lame from the womb of his mother, was being carried, whom each day they placed at the gate of the temple that is called Beautiful to ask for alms from those going into the temple, ³who, seeing Peter and John being about to enter into the temple, asked to receive alms. ⁴But Peter, looking intently at him with John, said, "Look at us." ⁵So he paid

attention to them, expecting to receive something from them. ⁶But Peter said, "Silver and gold I do not possess, but what I have, this I give to you. In the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, walk." ⁷And seizing him by the right hand, he raised him up, and immediately his feet and ankles were made strong. ⁸And leaping up, he stood and began to walk, and he entered with them into the temple, walking and leaping and praising God. ⁹And all the people saw him walking and praising God. ¹⁰And they recognized him, that he was the one sitting for alms at the Beautiful Gate of the temple, and they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him.

¹¹And as he was holding Peter and John, all the people ran together to them in the porch that is called Solomon's, marveling. ¹²But Peter, seeing this, replied to the people, "Men, Israelites, why do you marvel at this? Or why do you look intently at us, as if we have made him to walk by our own power or godliness? ¹³The God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified his Servant Jesus, whom you indeed delivered up and rejected before the face of Pilate, when that one had decided to release him. ¹⁴But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a man, a murderer, to be granted to you, ¹⁵and you killed the Originator of Life, whom God raised from the dead, of which we are witnesses. ¹⁶And by faith in his name, this one whom you see and know, his name has made strong. And the faith that {is} through him has given to him this complete health in the presence of all of you. ¹⁷And now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, as also your rulers. ¹⁸But what God foretold through the mouth of all the prophets, that his Christ would suffer, he has fulfilled thus. ¹⁹Repent, therefore, and turn back for your sins to be wiped away, ²⁰so that times of refreshment may come from the face of the Lord and he may send the one appointed for you, Christ Jesus, ²¹whom it is necessary for heaven to receive until the times of the restoration of all things, about which God spoke from the age through the mouth of his holy prophets. ²²Moses indeed said, 'The Lord our God^[1] will raise up for you a prophet like me from your brothers. You will listen to him according to everything—whatever he may speak to you. ²³But it will be that every soul that does not listen to that prophet will be destroyed from the people.' ²⁴And indeed, all the prophets from Samuel and those after him, as many as have spoken, have also announced these days. ²⁵You are the sons of the prophets and of the covenant that God made with your fathers, saying to Abraham, 'And in your seed will all the families of the earth be blessed.' ²⁶God, having raised up his Servant, sent him to you first, blessing you by turning each of you from your wickedness."

3:22 ^[1] while other ancient manuscripts read and still others read

Chapter 4

¹And as they were speaking to the people, the priests and the captain of the temple and the Sadducees came up to them, ²greatly troubled because they were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection that {is} from the dead. ³And they laid hands on them and put them in custody until the next day, since it was already evening. ⁴But many of those who had heard the word believed, and the number of the men became about 5,000.

⁵And it happened that on the next day their rulers and elders and scribes were gathered together in Jerusalem, ⁶and Annas the high priest, and Caiaphas, and John, and Alexander, and as many as were from the high priestly family. ⁷And having set them in {their} midst, they asked them, "By what power or in what name have you done this?" ⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, ⁹if we are being questioned today concerning a good deed to a sick man, by what means he was made well, ¹⁰let it be known to you all and to all the people of Israel that in the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by this one this {man} stands before you healthy. ¹¹He is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the head of the corner. ¹²And there is no salvation in anyone else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

¹³And seeing the boldness of Peter and John, and realizing that they were uneducated and ordinary men, they marveled, and they recognized them, that they had been with Jesus. ¹⁴But seeing the man who had been healed standing with them, they had nothing to say in opposition. ¹⁵But having commanded them to go outside the

Sanhedrin, they conferred among themselves, ¹⁶saying, "What should we do to these men? For it is evident to everyone living in Jerusalem that a notable sign has happened through them, and we are not able to deny it. ¹⁷But so that it may not be spread unto more among the people, let us warn them no longer to speak in this name to any of men." ¹⁸And summoning them, they commanded them neither to speak nor to teach at all in the name of Jesus. ¹⁹But answering, Peter and John said to them, "Whether it is right before God to listen to you rather than to God, you judge. ²⁰For we are not able not to speak what we have seen and heard." ²¹So, having warned them further, they released them, finding nothing for which they might punish them, on account of the people, for they were all glorifying God for what had happened. ²²For the man to whom this sign of healing had happened was more than 40 years old.

²³But having been released, they came to {their} own people and reported all that the chief priests and the elders had said to them. ²⁴And having heard, they raised their voice unanimously to God and said, "Lord, you {are} the one who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and all that {is} in them, ²⁵the one who said by the Holy Spirit from the mouth of our father David, your servant,

'Why did the Gentiles rage,

and the peoples imagine useless things?

²⁶The kings of the earth took their stand

and the rulers were gathered to the same

against the Lord and against his Christ.'

²⁷For in truth both Herod and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles and the people of Israel, were gathered together in this city against your holy Servant Jesus, whom you anointed, ²⁸to do all that your hand and your counsel had predetermined to happen. ²⁹And now, Lord, look upon their threats and grant to your servants to speak your word with all boldness ³⁰as you stretch out your hand to heal and for signs and wonders to happen through the name of your holy Servant Jesus." ³¹And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they began to speak the word of God with boldness.

³²Now the multitude of those who believed was one in heart and soul. And not one said that any of the things that were to him was his own, but everything was common to them. ³³And with great power the apostles were proclaiming the testimony of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. ³⁴For there was not anyone needy among them, for all who were owners of lands or houses, selling them, were bringing the price of the things being sold ³⁵and they were laying it at the feet of the apostles, and it was being distributed to each one, according as anyone had need.

³⁶Then Joseph, who was called Barnabas by the apostles (which, being translated, is Son of Encouragement), a Levite from Cyprus by lineage, ³⁷selling a field that was to him, brought the money and laid it at the feet of the apostles.

Chapter 5

¹Now a certain man, Ananias by name, with Sapphira his wife, sold a piece of land, ²and he kept back from the price, {his} wife also knowing, and bringing a certain portion, he laid it at the feet of the apostles. ³But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart for you to lie to the Holy Spirit and to keep back from the price of the land? ⁴While it remained, did it not remain yours, and being sold, was it {not} in your authority? How {is it} that you placed this thing in your heart? You have not lied to men, but to God." ⁵And hearing these words, Ananias, falling down, expired, and great fear came upon all who heard. ⁶So rising up, the young men wrapped him up and, carrying him out, they buried him.

⁷And an interval of about three hours happened, and his wife, not knowing what had happened, came in. ⁸And Peter said to her, "Tell me whether you sold the land for so much." And she said, "Yes, for so much." ⁹So Peter said to her, "How {is it} that it was agreed together by you to test the Spirit of the Lord? Behold, the feet of those who buried your husband {are} at the door, and they will carry you out." ¹⁰And immediately she fell down at his feet and expired. And having come in, the young men found her dead, and carrying her out, they buried her beside her husband. ¹¹And great fear came upon the whole church and upon all those hearing these things.

¹²And many signs and wonders were happening through the hands of the apostles among the people, and they were all unanimously at the Porch of Solomon. ¹³But none of the others dared to join them; however, the people extolled them. ¹⁴And more believers were being added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and of women, ¹⁵so that they even carried the sick into the streets and laid them on cots and mats, so that as Peter came by, at least {his} shadow might overshadow any one of them. ¹⁶And a multitude also came together from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those afflicted by unclean spirits, who were all healed.

¹⁷But rising up, the high priest and all those with him (which is the sect of the Sadducees) were filled with jealousy, ¹⁸and they laid hands on the apostles and put them in the public prison. ¹⁹But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the doors of the prison, bringing them out, and said, ²⁰"Go and, standing in the temple, speak to the people all the words of this life." ²¹And having heard this, they entered into the temple about daybreak and were teaching. And having arrived, the high priest and those with him called together the Sanhedrin, even all the elders of the sons of Israel, and sent to the prison to bring the apostles. ²²But having arrived, the officers did not find them in the prison, so having returned, they reported, ²³saying, "We found the prison shut in all security and the guards standing at the doors, but having opened, we found no one inside." ²⁴And when both the captain of the temple and the chief priests heard these words, they were perplexed concerning them, as to what this might become. ²⁵Then someone, having arrived, reported to them, "Behold, the men whom you put in the prison are standing in the temple and teaching the people." ²⁶Then the captain, going with the officers, brought them back, not with violence, for they feared the people, lest they stone them. ²⁷And having brought them, they set them in the Sanhedrin, and the high priest interrogated them, ²⁸saying, "We commanded you with a command not to teach in this name, and behold, you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you desire to bring upon us the blood of this man." ²⁹But answering, Peter and the apostles said, "It is necessary to obey God rather than men. ³⁰The God of our fathers raised up Jesus, whom you killed, having hung him on a tree. ³¹God has exalted this one to his right as Prince and Savior, to give repentance and forgiveness of sins to Israel. ³²And we are witnesses of these things, and the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those obeying him."

³³But having heard this, they were furious and wanted to kill them. ³⁴But a certain Pharisee, Gamaliel by name, a law teacher, honored by all the people, rising up in the Sanhedrin, commanded to put the apostles outside for a little. ³⁵And he said to them, "Men, Israelites, pay attention to yourselves, what you are about to do to these men. ³⁶For before these days, Theudas rose up, saying himself to be somebody, to whom was joined a number of men, about 400, who was killed, and all, as many as were persuaded by him, were dispersed, and they came to nothing. ³⁷After this one, Judas the Galilean rose up in the days of the census and drew away people after him. That one also perished, and all, as many as were persuaded by him, were scattered. ³⁸And now I say these things to you: Keep away from these men and release them, for if this counsel or this work is from men, it will be destroyed, ³⁹but if it is from God, you will not be able to destroy them, lest you may even be found God-opposers." And they were persuaded by him. ⁴⁰And summoning the apostles, having beaten them, they commanded them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and they released them. ⁴¹Therefore, they indeed went out from the face of the Sanhedrin rejoicing that they had been considered worthy to suffer dishonor for the Name. ⁴²And every day, in the temple and in each house, they did not cease teaching and proclaiming the gospel—Jesus {is} the Christ.

Chapter 6

¹Now in those days, when the disciples were multiplying, a complaint by the Hellenists began against the Hebrews, because their widows were being overlooked in the daily serving. ²So the Twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples {and} said, "It is not acceptable for us to leave behind the word of God to serve tables. ³So brothers, choose from among yourselves seven men of good reputation, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint over this task. ⁴But we will continue in prayer and in the ministry of the word." ⁵And the statement was pleasing before the whole multitude. So they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte from Antioch. ⁶They brought them before the apostles, and they prayed {and} placed their hands upon them.

⁷So the word of God kept spreading, and the number of disciples in Jerusalem increased greatly, and a large crowd of the priests became obedient to the faith.

⁸Now Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and signs among the people. ⁹But there arose some people who {were} from the synagogue that is called Freedmen, and of the Cyrenians, and of the Alexandrians, and of those from Cilicia and Asia. They were debating with Stephen. ¹⁰But they were not able to stand against the wisdom and the Spirit by whom he spoke. ¹¹Then they bribed men to say, "We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses and God." ¹²They also stirred up the people and the elders and the scribes, and approaching him, they seized him and brought him to the Sanhedrin. ¹³And they brought false witnesses, saying, "This man does not stop speaking words against the holy place and the law. ¹⁴For we have heard him say that this Jesus the Nazarene will destroy this place and change the customs that Moses handed down to us." ¹⁵And looking intently at him, everyone who was sitting in the Sanhedrin saw his face as the face of an angel.

Chapter 7

¹Then the high priest said, "Are these things thus?" ²Then he said,

"Men, brothers, and fathers, listen to me: The God of glory appeared to our father Abraham when he was in Mesopotamia, even before he lived in Haran; ³and he said to him, 'Go out from your land and from your relatives, and come into the land that I will show you.' ⁴Then going out from the land of the Chaldeans, he lived in Haran. And from there, after the death of his father, {God} brought him into this land, in which you live now. ⁵But he did not give him an inheritance in it—not even a stride of a foot. But he promised to give it to him for a possession, and to his seed after him—although he did not have a child. ⁶But God spoke to him like this, that his seed would be strangers in a foreign land, and that they would enslave him and treat him badly for 400 years. ⁷'But I will judge the nation that will enslave him,' said God, 'and after that they will come out and serve me in this place.' ⁸And God gave him the covenant of circumcision, and so he became the father of Isaac and circumcised him on the eighth day; and Isaac of Jacob, and Jacob of the 12 patriarchs. ⁹And the patriarchs, being jealous of Joseph, sold him into Egypt. But God was with him ¹⁰and he rescued him from all his afflictions, and he gave him favor and wisdom before Pharaoh, king of Egypt, and he appointed him governor over Egypt and {over} all his household. ¹¹Then came a famine over all Egypt and Canaan, and great tribulation, and our fathers did not find food. ¹²But when Jacob heard there was grain in Egypt, he first sent our fathers. ¹³And during {their} second time, Joseph was made known to his brothers, and the family of Joseph became known to Pharaoh. ¹⁴Then sending them back, Joseph summoned Jacob, his father, and all {his} relatives, 75 souls in {all}. ¹⁵So Jacob went down to Egypt, and he and our fathers died. ¹⁶And they were carried over to Shechem and laid in the tomb that Abraham bought for a price in silver from the sons of Hamor in Shechem. ¹⁷And as the time of the promise that God had promised to Abraham approached, the people increased and multiplied in Egypt, ¹⁸until there arose over Egypt another king who did not know Joseph. ¹⁹Taking advantage of our people, he mistreated {our} fathers, to make their exposed babies to not be kept alive. ²⁰At that time Moses was born; and he was beautiful to God. He was nourished for three months in

the house of {his} father. ²¹But when he was exposed, the daughter of Pharaoh took him and raised him for herself as a son. ²²And Moses was educated in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, and he was mighty in his words and works. ²³But when he was about 40 years of age, it came into his heart to visit his brothers, the sons of Israel. ²⁴And seeing a certain one being mistreated, he defended him and made vengeance for the one being oppressed by striking the Egyptian: ²⁵and he thought {his} brothers would understand that God by his hand was giving salvation to them, but they did not understand. ²⁶And on the next day he appeared to them as they were quarreling, and he urged them to peace, saying, 'Men, you are brothers. Why is it that you are hurting each other?' ²⁷But the one injuring {his} neighbor pushed him away, {and} said, 'Who appointed you a ruler and a judge over us?' ²⁸You do not want to kill me in the same way you killed the Egyptian yesterday, do you?' ²⁹Then Moses ran away at this statement, and he became a foreigner in the land of Midian, where he became the father of two sons. ³⁰And when 40 years were past, an angel appeared to him in the wilderness of Mount Sinai, in a flame of fire in a bush. ³¹And when Moses saw the fire, he marveled at the sight; and as he approached to look at it, there came a voice of the Lord: ³²'I am the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, and of Isaac, and of Jacob.' And becoming terrified, Moses did not dare to look. ³³And the Lord said to him, 'Untie the sandals of your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground. ³⁴I have certainly seen the oppression of my people who {are} in Egypt, and I have heard their groans, and I have come down to rescue them; so now come, I will send you to Egypt.' ³⁵This same Moses, whom they rejected, saying, 'Who appointed you a ruler and a judge?'—God sent him as both a ruler and a redeemer with the hand of the angel who appeared to him in the bush. ³⁶He led them out, doing wonders and signs in the land of Egypt and at the Sea of Reeds, and in the wilderness during 40 years. ³⁷It is this Moses who said to the sons of Israel, 'God will raise up a prophet like me for you from among your brothers.' ³⁸This is the one who was in the assembly in the wilderness with the angel who was speaking to him on Mount Sinai, and with our fathers, who received living words to give to us. ³⁹Our fathers were not willing to be obedient to him, but instead they pushed him away, and turned back in their hearts to Egypt. ⁴⁰They had said to Aaron, 'Make for us gods who will lead us. As for this Moses, who brought us from the land of Egypt, we do not know what has happened to him.' ⁴¹So they made an image of a calf in those days and brought a sacrifice to the idol and rejoiced in the work of their hands. ⁴²But God turned away and gave them up to serve the host of heaven, just as it is written in the book of the prophets,

'You did not offer to me slain beasts and sacrifices
for 40 years in the wilderness, did you, O house of Israel?

⁴³And you took up the tabernacle of Molech
and the star of your god Rephan,
{and} the images that you made to worship them:
and I will carry you away beyond Babylon.'

⁴⁴The tabernacle of the testimony was with our fathers in the wilderness, just as the one speaking to Moses had commanded, to make it according to the pattern that he had seen. ⁴⁵Our fathers, under Joshua, received it and brought it with them when they took possession of the nations whom God drove out from the face of our fathers until the days of David, ⁴⁶who found favor before God, and he asked to find a dwelling place for the house of Jacob. ^[1] ⁴⁷However, Solomon built the house for him. ⁴⁸But the Most High does not live in houses made with hands, just as the prophet says,

⁴⁹'Heaven {is} my throne, and the earth {is} the footstool for my feet.
What kind of house will you build for me? says the Lord,
or what {is} the place for my rest?

⁵⁰Did my hand not make all these things?'

⁵¹O stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears! You always resist the Holy Spirit; as your fathers—also you.

⁵²Which of the prophets did your fathers not persecute? And they killed those who told in advance about the coming of the Righteous One, of whom you have now become betrayers and murderers, ⁵³who received the law as ordained by angels, but did not keep it.”

⁵⁴Now hearing these things, they were cut to their hearts, and they ground {their} teeth at him. ⁵⁵But being full of the Holy Spirit {and} looking intently into heaven, he saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶And he said, “Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.”

⁵⁷But shouting with a loud voice, they covered their ears and rushed at him all at once. ⁵⁸And throwing him outside the city, they stoned him. And the witnesses laid aside their outer garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹And as they were stoning Stephen, he was calling out and saying, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” ⁶⁰But having knelt down on {his} knees, he cried out with a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” And having said this, he fell asleep.

7:46 ^[1] but the best ancient manuscripts have .

Chapter 8

¹And Saul was agreeing with his execution.

And there began on that day a great persecution against the church that {was} in Jerusalem, and they all were scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles. ²And devout men carried away Stephen and made great lamentation over him. ³But Saul was harming the church, entering according to the houses, dragging out both men and women, {and} delivering them to prison.

⁴Then those who had been scattered went about proclaiming the gospel—the word. ⁵And Philip went down to the city of Samaria, proclaiming to them the Christ. ⁶And the crowds with one accord were paying attention to the things being spoken by Philip when they heard them and saw the signs that he was doing. ⁷For many of them having unclean spirits, they were coming out, crying out with a loud voice. And many who had been paralyzed and lame were healed. ⁸And there was much joy in that city.

⁹But a certain man named Simon was formerly practicing sorcery in the city and astonishing the nation of Samaria, claiming himself to be someone great, ¹⁰to whom they all, from least to greatest, were paying attention, saying, “This {man} is the power of God which is called Great.” ¹¹And they were listening to him, because he had amazed them for a long time with {his} sorceries. ¹²But when they believed Philip, proclaiming the gospel about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women. ¹³And Simon himself also believed and, having been baptized, he was continuing with Philip. And seeing signs and mighty deeds happening, he was amazed.

¹⁴Now when the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent to them Peter and John, ¹⁵who, having come down, prayed for them, so that they might receive the Holy Spirit. ¹⁶For he had not yet fallen upon any of them, but they had only been baptized into the name of the Lord Jesus. ¹⁷Then they were laying {their} hands on them, and they were receiving the Holy Spirit. ¹⁸And when Simon saw that the Spirit was being given through the laying on of the hands of the apostles, he offered them money, ¹⁹saying, “Give to me also this authority, so that whoever I lay {my} hands on may receive the Holy Spirit.” ²⁰But Peter said to him, “Your silver with you is for destruction, because you thought to obtain the gift of God through money. ²¹There is to you no part or share in this matter, because your heart is not right before God. ²²Therefore repent of this wickedness of yours, and pray to the Lord, if therefore the intention of your heart will be forgiven to you. ²³For I see that you are in the poison of bitterness and the bond of unrighteousness.” ²⁴But answering, Simon said, “You pray to the Lord for me, so that nothing of which you have spoken may happen to me.”

²⁵Therefore, when they had testified and spoken the word of the Lord, they were returning to Jerusalem and proclaiming the gospel to many villages of the Samaritans.

²⁶Now an angel of the Lord spoke to Philip, saying, "Arise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is desert.) ²⁷And he arose {and} went, and behold, a man from Ethiopia, a eunuch, an official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was over all her treasure, who had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸and he was returning and sitting in his chariot and reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹And the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over and be joined to this chariot." ³⁰So Philip ran to him, {and} heard him reading Isaiah the prophet, and said, "Do you understand what you are reading?" ³¹And he said, "For how would I be able, unless someone will guide me?" And he summoned Philip, having come up, to sit with him. ³²And the passage of the Scripture which he was reading was this,

"He was led like a sheep to the slaughter,
and like a lamb before its shearer {is} silent,
thus he does not open his mouth.

³³In humiliation his justice was taken away.

Who can fully describe his generation?

For his life was taken from the earth."

³⁴And answering, the eunuch said to Philip, "I am begging you, about whom is the prophet saying this— concerning himself, or about some other {person}?" ³⁵And Philip opened his mouth, and having begun with this scripture, he proclaimed the gospel to him—Jesus. ³⁶And as they were going along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch says, "Behold, water! What is preventing me to be baptized?" ³⁷^[1] [And Philip said to him, "If you believe from your whole heart, you will be saved." And he answered {and} said, "I believe in the Christ, the Son of God."] ³⁸And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, both Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. ³⁹And when they came up from the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched away Philip, and the eunuch did not see him anymore, for he went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰But Philip was found at Azotus and passed through, proclaiming the gospel to all the cities until his coming to Caesarea.

8:37 ^[1]

Chapter 9

¹But Saul, still speaking threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, having gone to the high priest, ²asked letters from him to Damascus, to the synagogues, so that if he might find anyone being of the Way, both men and women, having bound them, he might bring them to Jerusalem. ³And as he was traveling, it happened that he came near to Damascus, and suddenly there shone on him a light from heaven; ⁴and he fell to the ground {and} heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?" ⁵And he said, "Who are you, Lord?" And he {said}: "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting; ⁶but get up and enter into the city, and it will be told to you what it is necessary for you to do." ⁷But the men who are travelling with him stood speechless, hearing the voice, but seeing no one. ⁸And Saul rose up from the ground, but his eyes being opened, he was seeing nothing, but leading him by the hand, they brought him into Damascus. ⁹And he was three days without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

¹⁰Now there was a certain disciple in Damascus named Ananias. And the Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias!" And he said, "Behold, I {am here}, Lord." ¹¹And the Lord {said} to him: "Having risen up, go to the street which is called Straight, and at the house of Judas, seek a man named Saul, from Tarsus, for behold, he is praying. ¹²And he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias coming in and laying hands on him so that he might see again." ¹³But

Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem. ¹⁴And here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call upon your name." ¹⁵But the Lord said to him, "Go, for this one is a chosen instrument of mine who will carry my name before the Gentiles, and also kings, and the sons of Israel; ¹⁶for I will show him how much it is necessary for him to suffer for my name." ¹⁷And Ananias departed, and entered into the house. And having laid {his} hands on him, he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord has sent me—Jesus, who appeared to you on the road on which you were going—so that you might see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit." ¹⁸And immediately {something} like scales fell from his eyes, and he could see again, and rising up, he was baptized; ¹⁹and having taken food, he was strengthened.

And he stayed with the disciples in Damascus certain days. ²⁰And immediately in the synagogues, he proclaimed Jesus, that this one is the Son of God. ²¹And all who were hearing were amazed and were saying, "Is not this the one who destroyed those in Jerusalem who call on this name? And he has come here for this reason, so that having been bound, he might bring them to the chief priests." ²²But Saul was becoming more powerful and stirring up the Jews who lived in Damascus, proving that Jesus is the Christ.

²³But when many days were completed, the Jews took counsel together to kill him. ²⁴But their plot became known to Saul. And indeed they were watching the gates both day and night in order to kill him. ²⁵But his disciples, taking him by night, let him down through the wall, lowering him in a basket.

²⁶And when he had come to Jerusalem, he was attempting to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him, not believing that he is a disciple. ²⁷But taking hold of him, Barnabas brought him to the apostles and told them how he had seen the Lord on the road and that he had spoken to him, and how in Damascus he had spoken boldly in the name of Jesus. ²⁸And so he was with them coming in and going out in Jerusalem, speaking boldly in the name of the Lord. ²⁹Also, he was speaking and debating with the Hellenists; but they were trying to kill him. ³⁰But when the brothers learned of this, they brought him down to Caesarea and sent him away to Tarsus.

³¹Then, the church throughout all Judea and Galilee and Samaria had peace, being built up and going on in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, was increasing. ³²Now it happened that Peter was going throughout the whole {region} to come down also to the saints who are living in Lydda. ³³And he found there a certain man named Aeneas, lying in a bed for eight years, who was paralyzed. ³⁴And Peter said to him, "Aeneas, Jesus Christ heals you. Get up and make your bed," and immediately he arose. ³⁵And all who were living in Lydda and in Sharon saw him, who turned to the Lord.

³⁶Now there was in Joppa a certain disciple named Tabitha, which is translated to say, "Dorcas." She was full of good works and giving of alms that she did. ³⁷And it happened that in those days, having been sick, she died. And having washed her, they laid her in an upper room. ³⁸And since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, having heard that Peter is in it, sent two men to him, begging him, "Do not delay to come to us." ³⁹And so having arisen, Peter went with them, whom, having arrived, they brought to the upper room, and all the widows stood by him weeping, and showing him coats and garments, as many as Dorcas made while being with them. ⁴⁰But Peter, having put out all of them and kneeling down, prayed, and having turned to the body, he said, "Tabitha, arise." Then she opened her eyes, and having seen Peter, she sat up. ⁴¹And having given {his} hand to her, he raised her up; and having called the saints and the widows, he presented her alive. ⁴²And this became known throughout all Joppa, and many believed on the Lord. ⁴³Now it happened that he stayed many days in Joppa with a certain Simon, a tanner.

Chapter 10

¹Now {there was} a certain man in Caesarea named Cornelius, a centurion from the regiment that was called 'Italian,' ²devout and fearing God with all his household, making many gifts of alms to the people and praying to God through all. ³About the ninth hour of the day, he clearly saw in a vision as if an angel of God were coming to him and saying to him, "Cornelius!" ⁴But he stared at him and having become terrified, he said, "What is it, sir?" And he said to him, "Your prayers and your alms have gone up for a memorial offering before God. ⁵And now,

send men to Joppa and summon a certain Simon who is called Peter. ⁶He is staying with a certain Simon, a tanner, to whom is a house by the sea." ⁷And when the angel who spoke to him left, he called two of {his} house servants and a devout soldier of those who served him. ⁸And having told them everything, he sent them to Joppa.

⁹And on the next day at about the sixth hour, as they were traveling and were approaching the city, Peter went up to the housetop to pray. ¹⁰And he became hungry and wanted to eat, but while they were preparing, a vision came upon him, ¹¹and he sees the sky having been opened, and a certain container descending like a large sheet, being let down by four corners to the earth, ¹²In which were all the four-footed animals and creeping things on the earth, and birds of the sky. ¹³And a voice came to him: "Get up, Peter, kill and eat." ¹⁴But Peter said, "Not at all, Lord; for I have never eaten anything defiled and unclean." ¹⁵And the voice to him again a second {time}: "What God has cleansed, you must not make unclean." ¹⁶And this happened for three times, and the container was immediately taken back up to the sky.

¹⁷And while Peter was very confused in himself about what the vision that he had seen might mean, behold, the men who had been sent by Cornelius stood before the gate, having found by inquiry the house of Simon. ¹⁸And they called out, asking if Simon, who was called Peter, was being shown hospitality there. ¹⁹And while Peter was still thinking about the vision, the Spirit said to him, "Behold, three men are looking for you."^[1] ²⁰But having arisen, go down and go with them. Do not hesitate, because I have sent them." ²¹And so having gone down to the men, Peter said, "Behold, I am he whom you are seeking. What {is} the reason for which you are present?" ²²And they said, "Cornelius, a centurion, a man righteous and fearing God, and well-testified to by the whole nation of the Jews, was instructed by a holy angel to summon you to his house and to hear a word from you." ²³Therefore, having invited them in, he hosted them.

And the next day, having arisen, he went with them, and some of the brothers who {were} from Joppa accompanied him. ²⁴And the following day, they came to Caesarea. And Cornelius was waiting for them, having called together his relatives and close friends. ²⁵And it happened that as Peter entered, Cornelius met him, {and} falling down at {his} feet, he worshiped him. ²⁶But Peter lifted him up, saying, "Get up! I too am a man myself." ²⁷And while he was talking with him, he went in and finds many people gathered together. ²⁸And he was saying to them, "You yourselves know how unlawful it is for a Jewish man to associate with or to visit a foreigner, but God has shown me not to call a man defiled or unclean. ²⁹And that is why I came without arguing when I was summoned. Therefore, I ask you, for what reason did you summon me?" ³⁰And Cornelius said, "Four days ago at this very hour, I was praying at the ninth hour in my house; and behold, a man stood before me in bright clothing. ³¹And he said, 'Cornelius, your prayer has been heard, and your alms have been remembered before God. ³²Therefore, send to Joppa and summon Simon who is called Peter. He is staying in the house of Simon, a tanner, by the sea.'^[2] ³³So immediately I sent for you, and you did well in coming. Now therefore, we are all present before God, to hear everything that you have been instructed by the Lord."^[3] ³⁴And Peter opened {his} mouth {and} said,

"In truth, I perceive that God is not one who shows partiality. ³⁵Instead, in every nation the one who fears him and works righteous deeds is acceptable to him. ³⁶The word that he sent to the sons of Israel, proclaiming the gospel of peace through Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all)— ³⁷you know the word which happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee, after the baptism that John proclaimed; ³⁸Jesus who {is} from Nazareth, how God anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹And we {are} witnesses of all that he did, both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They also killed him by hanging him on a tree. ⁴⁰God raised up this one on the third day and caused him to be seen, ⁴¹not by all the people, but by the witnesses who were chosen beforehand by God—by us who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴²And he commanded us to proclaim to the people and to testify that he is the one who has been chosen by God as a Judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³To this one, all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him shall receive forgiveness of sins through his name."

⁴⁴While Peter was still saying these things, the Holy Spirit fell on all those who were listening to {his} word. ⁴⁵And the faithful from the circumcision—all who had come with Peter—were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit

was poured out also on the Gentiles. ⁴⁶For they heard them speaking with tongues and praising God. Then Peter answered, ⁴⁷"No one is able to withhold water, is he, that these are not baptized, who have received the Holy Spirit as we also {did}?" ⁴⁸And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to stay for several days.

10:19 ^[1] or

10:32 ^[2]

10:33 ^[3] some ancient copies read

Chapter 11

¹Now the apostles and the brothers who were throughout Judea heard that the Gentiles also had received the word of God. ²And when Peter came up to Jerusalem, those from the circumcision disputed with him; ³they said, "You went in to uncircumcised men and ate with them!" ⁴But Peter began to explain to them in an orderly manner, saying, ⁵"I was praying in the city of Joppa, and I saw in a trance a vision of a certain container coming down, like a large sheet being let down from the sky by {its} four corners, and it came as far as me. ⁶Gazing at it, I looked closely and saw the four-legged animals of the earth, and the wild beasts, and the creeping animals, and the birds of the sky. ⁷Then I also heard a voice saying to me, "Having arisen, Peter; kill and eat!" ⁸But I said, "By no means, Lord; for the profane or unclean has never entered into my mouth." ⁹But the voice answered for a second {time} from heaven, "What God has cleansed, you must not make unclean." ¹⁰And this happened three times, and then everything was pulled back up to the sky again. ¹¹And behold, right away three men stood at the house in which we were, having been sent from Caesarea to me. ¹²And the Spirit told me to go with them, not making any distinction. And these six brothers also went with me, and we entered into the house of the man. ¹³Then he reported to us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, "Send to Joppa and summon Simon, who is called Peter. ¹⁴He will speak to you a word by which you will be saved—you and all your household." ¹⁵But as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit came on them, just as also on us in the beginning. ¹⁶Then I remembered the word of the Lord, how he said, "John baptized with water; but you will be baptized in the Holy Spirit." ¹⁷If, therefore, God gave to them the same gift as also to us when we believed on the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I, able to oppose God?" ¹⁸And when they heard these things, they became quiet and glorified God, saying, "Then God has given repentance unto life to the Gentiles also."

¹⁹Then those who had been scattered from the persecution that happened over Stephen spread as far as Phoenicia, and Cyprus, and Antioch, speaking the word to no one except only to Jews. ²⁰But there were some from them, men from Cyprus and Cyrene, who came to Antioch {and} spoke also to the Greeks, proclaiming the gospel—the Lord Jesus. ²¹And the hand of the Lord was with them; and a great number who believed turned to the Lord. ²²And the report about them came to the ears of the church that was in Jerusalem, and they sent out Barnabas as far as Antioch. ²³When he came and saw the grace that {is} of God, he was glad and exhorted them all to remain with the Lord with purpose of heart. ²⁴For he was a good man and full of the Holy Spirit and of faith, and a considerable crowd was added to the Lord. ²⁵And he went out to Tarsus to search for Saul. ²⁶And when he found him, he brought him to Antioch. So indeed it happened that for an entire year they were gathered together with the church and taught a considerable crowd. And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch.

²⁷Now in these days prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch. ²⁸And one from them, named Agabus, arose {and} indicated by the Spirit that a great famine was about to occur over the whole world. This happened in the days of Claudius. ²⁹So, the disciples, just as anyone prospered, each of them decided to send to the service to the brothers living in Judea, ³⁰which they also did, sending it to the elders by the hand of Barnabas and Saul.

Chapter 12

¹Now about that time, Herod the king laid hands on some of those from the church to harm them. ²And he killed James, the brother of John, with the sword. ³And when he saw that this is pleasing to the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter also. And those were the days of unleavened bread. ⁴And having arrested him, he put him in prison, handing him over to four squads of soldiers to guard him; he was intending to bring him out to the people after the Passover. ⁵So Peter was kept in the prison, but prayer was being made earnestly to God for him by the church. ⁶And when Herod was going to bring him out for trial, that night, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and guards before the door were keeping watch over the prison. ⁷And behold, an angel of the Lord appeared by him, and a light shone in the prison cell. And he struck Peter on the side {and} woke him, saying, "Get up in haste," and his chains fell away from {his} hands. ⁸And the angel said to him, "Gird yourself and put on your sandals." So he did thus. And he said to him, "Put on your outer garment and follow me." ⁹And going out, he followed him, but he did not know that what is being done by the angel is real, but he thought he is seeing a vision. ¹⁰But when they had passed by the first guard and the second, they came to the iron gate that led into the city; it opened for them by itself. And having gone out, they went down a street, and right away the angel went away from him. ¹¹And when Peter had come to himself, he said, "Now I truly know that the Lord has sent his angel and delivered me from the hand of Herod, and from all the expectations of the Jewish people." ¹²And having realized this, he went to the house of Mary, the mother of John, who was called Mark, where many people were gathered together and are praying. ¹³And when he knocked at the door of the gate, a servant girl named Rhoda came to answer. ¹⁴And when she recognized the voice of Peter, from joy she did not open the gate; instead, running inside, she reported, "Peter stands at the gate!" ¹⁵But they said to her, "You are insane." But she insisted that it was thus. So they said, "It is his angel." ¹⁶But Peter continued knocking, and opening, they saw him and were amazed. ¹⁷And after motioning to them with {his} hand to be silent, he reported to them how the Lord had led him from the prison. And he said, "Report these things to James and the brothers." And having gone out, he went to another place. ¹⁸Now when it became day, there was no small disturbance among the soldiers over what then had happened to Peter. ¹⁹And Herod, having searched for him and not having found him, questioned the guards {and} ordered them to be put to death. And having gone down from Judea to Caesarea, he stayed there.

²⁰Now he was very angry with Tyre and Sidon. So they went to him together, and having persuaded Blastus, the one in charge of the bedchamber of the king, they asked for peace, because their food for {their} country was from the king's country. ²¹And on a set day, Herod clothed himself in royal clothing, and sitting on the throne, he made a speech to them. ²²But the people shouted, "The voice of a god, and not of a man!" ²³And immediately an angel of the Lord struck him, because he did not give the glory to God; and becoming worm-eaten, he died.

²⁴But the word of God increased and was multiplied.

²⁵And Barnabas and Saul returned to Jerusalem,^[1] having completed {their} service, having brought with them John, who was called Mark.

12:25 ^[1]

Chapter 13

¹Now there were in Antioch, in the church that was {there}, prophets and teachers: both Barnabas and Simeon (who is called Niger), and Lucius the Cyrenaeen, both Manaen (one brought up with Herod the tetrarch) and Saul. ²And while they are ministering to the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart, then, for me, Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." ³Then having fasted and prayed and laid {their} hands on them, they sent them off.

⁴So they, having been sent out by the Holy Spirit, went down to Seleucia; and from there they sailed away to Cyprus. ⁵And having arrived in Salamis, they were proclaiming the word of God in the synagogues of the Jews. And

they also had John as an assistant. ⁶And having passed through the whole island as far as Paphos, they found a certain man, a magician, a Jewish false prophet whose name {was} Bar Jesus. ⁷He was with the proconsul, Sergius Paulus—an intelligent man. He summoned Barnabas and Saul, seeking to hear the word of God. ⁸But Elymas “the magician” (for thus his name is translated) opposed them; he sought to turn the proconsul away from the faith. ⁹But Saul, who {is} also Paul, having been filled with the Holy Spirit, stared at him intently ¹⁰{and} said, “O one full of all deceit and all wickedness, son of the devil, enemy of all righteousness, will you not stop perverting the straight paths of the Lord? ¹¹And now behold, the hand of the Lord upon you, and you will be blind, not seeing the sun for a time.” And immediately a mist and darkness fell on Elymas, and he is going around seeking one to lead him by the hand. ¹²Then having seen what had happened, the proconsul believed, being astonished at the teaching of the Lord.

¹³Now having set sail from Paphos, those around Paul came to Perga in Pamphylia. But John, withdrawing from them, returned to Jerusalem. ¹⁴But they having passed through from Perga, came to Antioch of Pisidia, and having gone into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, they sat down. ¹⁵And after the reading of the law and the prophets, the leaders of the synagogue sent to them, saying, “Men, brothers, if there is among you any word of exhortation for the people, speak it.” ¹⁶So having arisen and motioned with {his} hand, Paul said, “Men, Israelites and ones who fear God, listen. ¹⁷The God of this people Israel chose our fathers and exalted the people when they stayed in the land of Egypt, and with an uplifted arm he led them from it. ¹⁸And for a time of about 40 years, he put up with them in the wilderness.^[1] ¹⁹And when he had destroyed seven nations in the land of Canaan, he gave them their land for an inheritance. ²⁰And about 450 years after these things, he gave them judges until Samuel the prophet. ²¹And then they asked for a king, and God gave them Saul, son of Kish, a man from the tribe of Benjamin, for 40 years. ²²And having removed him, he raised up David for them as {their} king, to whom having testified, he also said, ‘I have found David, son of Jesse, a man according to my heart, who will do all my will.’ ²³From the descendants of this one according to promise, God brought to Israel a Savior, Jesus. ²⁴John announced beforehand, before the face of his coming, a baptism of repentance to all the people of Israel. ²⁵And as John was completing {his} work, he was saying, ‘Who do you think I am? I am not him. But behold, one is coming after me, of whom the sandals of {his} feet I am not worthy to untie.’ ²⁶Men, brothers, sons of the family of Abraham, and those among you who fear God, to us the word about this salvation has been sent. ²⁷For those who are living in Jerusalem, and their rulers, did not recognize this one, and they fulfilled the voices of the prophets that are being read every Sabbath, condemning him. ²⁸And though they found no reason for death, they asked Pilate to kill him. ²⁹And when they had completed all that had been written about him, taking him down from the tree, they laid him in a tomb. ³⁰But God raised him from the dead. ³¹He was seen for many days by those who had come up with him from Galilee to Jerusalem, who are now his witnesses to the people. ³²And we are proclaiming to you the gospel, the promise that was to {our} fathers. ³³For God has fulfilled this for our children, by raising up Jesus. As it is also written in the second Psalm:

‘You are my Son; today I have fathered you.’

³⁴And that he raised him up from the dead, never to be about to return to decay, he has spoken in this way:

‘I will give you the holy {and} trustworthy {blessings} of David.’

³⁵On account of this he also says in another place:

‘You will not allow your Holy One to see decay.’

³⁶For indeed, David, having served the counsel of God in his own generation, fell asleep, and was laid with his fathers, and saw decay. ³⁷But he whom God raised up did not see decay. ³⁸So let it be known to you, men, brothers, that because of this, forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you, and {freedom} from everything which you were not able to be justified in the law of Moses.^[2] ³⁹In this one every one who believes is justified. ⁴⁰So then be careful that the thing spoken about in the prophets may not happen to you:

⁴¹Look, you despisers, and be astonished and perish!

For I am doing a work in your days,

A work that you would never believe, even if someone would announce it to you.”

⁴²And as they were leaving, they begged them to speak to them these same words on the next Sabbath. ⁴³And when the synagogue meeting had ended, many of the Jews and the worshipping proselytes followed Paul and Barnabas, who speaking to them, urged them to continue in the grace of God.

⁴⁴And on the next Sabbath, almost the whole city was gathered together to hear the word of the Lord. ⁴⁵But when the Jews saw the crowds, they were filled with jealousy and spoke against the things that were said by Paul, blaspheming. ⁴⁶And Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly {and} said, “It was necessary for the word of God first to be spoken to you. Since you reject it and judge yourselves not worthy of eternal life, behold, we will turn to the Gentiles. ⁴⁷For thus has the Lord commanded us:

‘I have placed you as a light for the Gentiles,

that you should be for salvation as far as the end of the earth.”

⁴⁸But hearing this, the Gentiles were glad and glorified the word of the Lord, and as many as were appointed to eternal life believed. ⁴⁹And the word of the Lord was being spread throughout the whole region. ⁵⁰But the Jews stirred up the worshipping, influential women, and the leading men of the city, and a persecution arose against Paul and Barnabas, and they threw them out from their boundaries. ⁵¹But when they had shaken off the dust from {their} feet against them, they went to Iconium. ⁵²But the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.

13:18 ^[1]

13:38 ^[2] in verse 39.

Chapter 14

¹And it happened that in Iconium they entered together into the synagogue of the Jews and spoke in such a way so that a great multitude both of Jews and of Greeks believed. ²But the Jews who were disobedient stirred up and embittered the souls of the Gentiles against the brothers. ³So they stayed there for a long time, speaking boldly for the Lord who is testifying to the word of his grace by granting signs and wonders to be done by their hands. ⁴But the population of the city was divided; and some were with the Jews, but some with the apostles. ⁵But when an attempt happened of both the Gentiles and the Jews (with their rulers) to mistreat and stone them, ⁶having become aware of it, they fled to the cities of Lycaonia, Lystra, and Derbe, and the surrounding region, ⁷and there they continued to proclaim the gospel.

⁸And in Lystra a certain man sat, powerless in {his} feet, lame from the womb of his mother, who never had walked. ⁹This one heard Paul speaking. He looked intently at him and saw that he has faith to be saved. ¹⁰He said in a loud voice, “Stand upright on your feet,” and he jumped up and walked around. ¹¹And when the crowds saw what Paul had done, they raised their voice, saying in the Lycaonian language, “The gods being made like men have come down to us.” ¹²And they were calling Barnabas “Zeus,” and Paul “Hermes,” because he was the main speaker. ¹³And the priest of the temple of Zeus, which was in front of the city, brought oxen and wreaths to the gates, wanting to sacrifice with the crowds. ¹⁴But when hearing of it, the apostles, Barnabas and Paul, having torn their clothing, rushed out into the crowd, crying out ¹⁵and saying, “Men, why are you doing these things? We also are men with the same feelings as you. We are proclaiming the gospel to you, to turn from these useless things to a living God, who made the heaven, and the earth, and the sea, and all that {is} in them. ¹⁶In the generations gone by, he allowed all the nations to go {their} own ways. ¹⁷And yet, he did not leave himself without witness; doing good, giving you rains from the sky and fruitful seasons, filling your hearts with food and gladness.” ¹⁸And even saying these words, they barely restrained the crowds from sacrificing to them.

¹⁹But Jews from Antioch and Iconium came and persuaded the crowds. So having stoned Paul, they dragged him out of the city, thinking him to be dead. ²⁰But as the disciples surrounded him, arising, he entered into the city, and the next day, he went with Barnabas to Derbe. ²¹After they had both proclaimed the gospel in that city and made many disciples, they returned to Lystra, and to Iconium, and to Antioch. ²²They were strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to continue in the faith, and {saying}, "It is necessary for us to enter into the kingdom of God through many afflictions." ²³And when they had appointed for them elders in every church, having prayed with fasting, they entrusted them to the Lord, in whom they had believed. ²⁴And when they passed through Pisidia, they came to Pamphylia. ²⁵And when they had spoken the word in Perga, they went down to Attalia. ²⁶From there they sailed to Antioch, where they had been commended to the grace of God for the work which they had completed. ²⁷And when they arrived and gathered together the church, they reported all that God had done with them, and that he had opened a door of faith for the Gentiles. ²⁸And they stayed for not a little time with the disciples.

Chapter 15

¹And certain ones coming down from Judea taught the brothers, "Unless you are circumcised in the custom of Moses, you are not able to be saved." ²And when not a little dispute and debate happened to Paul and Barnabas with them, they appointed Paul and Barnabas, along with certain others from among them, to go up to the apostles and elders in Jerusalem about this question. ³Therefore, the ones who had been sent by the church passed through both Phoenicia and Samaria announcing the conversion of the Gentiles, and they brought great joy to all the brothers. ⁴And when they arrived at Jerusalem, they were welcomed by the church, and the apostles, and the elders, and they reported all that God had done with them. ⁵But certain ones who had believed, who {were} from the sect of the Pharisees, stood up, saying, "It is necessary to circumcise them and to command them to keep the law of Moses." ⁶And the apostles and the elders gathered together to see about this matter. ⁷And after much debate happened, Peter arose {and} said to them,

"Men, brothers, you know that from days of old among you, God chose the Gentiles to hear by my mouth the word of the gospel, and to believe. ⁸And God, the heart-knower, testified to them, giving them the Holy Spirit, just as also to us; ⁹and he did not distinguish between us and them, having made their hearts clean by faith. ¹⁰Now therefore why are you testing God, to put a yoke upon the neck of the disciples which neither our fathers nor we were able to bear? ¹¹But we believe to be saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus, and they according to that {same} manner."

¹²And all the crowd kept silent and were listening to Barnabas and Paul explaining how many the signs and wonders God had worked among the Gentiles through them. ¹³And after they stopped speaking, James answered, saying,

"Men, brothers, listen to me. ¹⁴Simon has explained how God first concerned himself to take from the Gentiles a people for his name. ¹⁵And this agrees with the words of the prophets, just as it is written,

¹⁶After these things I will return,

and I will rebuild the tent of David, which has fallen down;

and I will rebuild its ruins and will restore it,

¹⁷so that the remnant of men may seek the Lord,

including all the Gentiles upon whom my name has been called upon them,

says the Lord who is doing these things ¹⁸known from eternity.^[1]

¹⁹Therefore, I am judging not to trouble those from the Gentiles who are turning to God, ²⁰but to write to them to keep away from the pollution of idols, and sexual immorality, and things that are strangled, and blood. ²¹For Moses has in every city, from ancient generations, those proclaiming him, being read in the synagogues every Sabbath.”

²²Then it seemed good to the apostles and the elders, with the whole church, to send to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas chosen men from among them—Judas called Barsabbas, and Silas, leading men among the brothers.

²³They wrote by their hand: “The apostles and the elders, brothers, to those throughout Antioch and Syria and Cilicia, who {are} brothers from among the Gentiles. Greetings! ²⁴Now, having heard that certain ones having gone out from us to disturb you with teachings that are upsetting your souls, who were not ordered by us, ²⁵it seemed good to us, having come together with one mind, to send to you chosen men along with our beloved Barnabas and Paul, ²⁶men who have handed over their souls for the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁷Therefore we are sending Judas and Silas, and they are reporting to you the {same} thing in words. ²⁸For it seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us to be laid upon you no greater burden than these necessary things: ²⁹to abstain from things sacrificed to idols, and blood, and things strangled, and sexual immorality. Keeping yourselves from these, you will do well. Farewell.”

³⁰So when they were dismissed, they came down to Antioch; and having gathered the crowd together, they delivered the letter. ³¹And when they had read it, they rejoiced because of the encouragement. ³²Both Judas and Silas, also being prophets themselves, exhorted the brothers with many words and strengthened them. ³³And after they had spent time there, they were sent away with peace from the brothers to those who had sent them. ³⁴^[2] [But it seemed good to Silas for him to remain there, so only Judas traveled.] ³⁵But Paul and Barnabas stayed in Antioch, teaching and proclaiming the gospel (with also many others), the word of the Lord.

³⁶But after some days, Paul said to Barnabas, “Having returned, then, let us visit the brothers in every city in which we proclaimed the word of the Lord—how they are.” ³⁷But Barnabas wanted to also take with them John who was called Mark. ³⁸But Paul thought it wise not to take along him who had withdrawn from them from Pamphylia and had not accompanied them in the work. ³⁹And there arose a sharp disagreement, so as to separate them from each other, and Barnabas took Mark with him to sail away to Cyprus. ⁴⁰But Paul, having chosen Silas, left, after he had been entrusted by the brothers to the grace of the Lord. ⁴¹And he went through Syria and Cilicia, strengthening the churches.

15:18 ^[1]

15:34 ^[2]

Chapter 16

¹And he also came down to Derbe and to Lystra; and behold, a certain disciple named Timothy was there, the son of a believing Jewish woman; but {his} father {was} a Greek. ²He was well spoken of by the brothers in Lystra and Iconium. ³Paul wanted this one to go out with him, and so having taken him, he circumcised him because of the Jews who were in those places, for they all knew that his father was a Greek. ⁴And as they were going through the cities, they were delivering to them to keep the decrees that had been decided by the apostles and elders who {were} in Jerusalem. ⁵So the churches were being strengthened in the faith and were increasing in number each day.

⁶And they went through the regions of Phrygia and Galatia, having been forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia. ⁷And when they had come near Mysia, they were attempting to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus did not permit them. ⁸And so passing by Mysia, they came down to Troas. ⁹And a vision appeared to Paul during the night: A certain man of Macedonia was standing and calling him and saying, “Having coming over to Macedonia, help us.” ¹⁰And so when he had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go out to Macedonia, reasoning together that God had called us to proclaim the gospel to them.

¹¹And setting sail from Troas, we made a straight course to Samothrace, and the next day to Neapolis, ¹²from there to Philippi, which is the first city in the district of Macedonia, a colony, and we stayed in this city for some days.

¹³And on the Sabbath day, we went outside the city gate by a river, where we thought to be a place of prayer. And having sat down, we spoke to the women who had come together. ¹⁴And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple of the city of Thyatira, worshiping God, was listening, of whom the Lord opened the heart to pay attention to what was being said by Paul. ¹⁵And when she was baptized, and her household, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, entering into my house, stay." And she persuaded us. ¹⁶And it happened that, as we were going to the place of prayer, a certain young female slave having a spirit of divination met us, who brought her masters much gain by fortune-telling. ¹⁷She, following after Paul and us, was shouting, saying, "These men are servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to you the way of salvation." ¹⁸And she did this for many days. But Paul, being greatly annoyed and having turned to the spirit, said, "I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out from her." And it came out that same hour.

¹⁹But when her masters saw that their hope of profit was gone, having seized Paul and Silas, they dragged them into the marketplace before the authorities. ²⁰And when they had brought them to the magistrates, they said, "These men are stirring up our city. They are Jews. ²¹And they are proclaiming customs that are not possible for us to accept nor to practice, being Romans." ²²And then the crowd rose up together against them, and the magistrates tore {their} garments off them, commanding them to be beaten with rods. ²³And when they had laid many blows upon them, they threw them into prison, having commanded the jailer to guard them securely, ²⁴who, having received such a command, threw them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks. ²⁵But around midnight, Paul and Silas, praying, were singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. ²⁶But suddenly a great earthquake happened, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened, and the chains of everyone were unfastened. ²⁷But the jailer became awake, and seeing the prison doors had been opened, having drawn {his} sword, he was about to kill himself, thinking the prisoners had escaped. ²⁸But Paul shouted with a loud voice, saying, "Do not cause harm to yourself, because we are all here." ²⁹And so having called for lights, he rushed in, and being terrified, fell down before Paul and Silas, ³⁰and having brought them out, he said, "Sirs, what must I do in order to be saved?" ³¹And they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." ³²And they spoke the word of the Lord to him, together with everyone who {was} in his house. ³³And having taken them at that same hour of the night, he washed them from the blows, and he was baptized immediately—he and all those {who were} his. ³⁴And having brought them up into {his} house, he set a table before them and exulted with {his} household, having believed in God.

³⁵Now when it was day, the magistrates sent the officers, saying, "Release those men." ³⁶And the jailer reported the words to Paul, "The magistrates have sent that you may be released. Now therefore, having come out, go in peace." ³⁷But Paul said to them, "They have beaten us in public without trial—men being Romans—they threw us into prison, and now they cast us out secretly? No indeed! Instead, coming themselves, let them lead us out." ³⁸But the officers reported these words to the magistrates, and they were terrified when they heard that they are Romans. ³⁹And having come, they apologized to them and having brought them out, they begged them to go away from the city. ⁴⁰But going out from the prison, they came to the house of Lydia. And when they had seen the brothers, they exhorted them and departed.

Chapter 17

¹Now having passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a synagogue of the Jews. ²And according to {his} custom, Paul went to them, and for three Sabbaths reasoned with them from the Scriptures, ³fully opening and demonstrating that it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead, and {saying}, "This Jesus, whom I proclaim to you, is the Christ." ⁴And some from them were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, both a large number of worshiping Greeks, and not a few of the leading women. ⁵But the Jews, having become jealous, and having taken certain wicked men of the marketplace, and having gathered a crowd together, they set the city in an uproar. And having assaulted the house of Jason, they sought to lead them

to the people. ⁶But when they did not find them, they dragged Jason and certain brothers before the city officials, crying out, "Those who have turned the inhabited world upside down—they are here in this place also, ⁷whom Jason and all these men have welcomed, acting against the decrees of Caesar, saying there is another king—Jesus." ⁸And the crowd and the city officials were disturbed, hearing these things. ⁹And after they had received a bond from Jason and the rest of them, they released them.

¹⁰But immediately by night, the brothers sent away both Paul and Silas to Berea, who, when they arrived there, went into the synagogue of the Jews. ¹¹Now these were more open-minded than those in Thessalonica, who received the word with all readiness, examining the Scriptures each day, whether these things were so. ¹²Therefore many from them believed, including influential Greek women and not a few men. ¹³But when the Jews from Thessalonica learned that the word of God was also being proclaimed by Paul at Berea, they came and there stirred up and troubled the crowds. ¹⁴But then immediately, the brothers sent Paul away to go as far as to the sea, but both Silas and Timothy stayed there. ¹⁵But those who were leading Paul down took him as far as Athens, and after receiving a command to Silas and Timothy that they would come to him as quickly as possible, they departed.

¹⁶Now while Paul was waiting for them in Athens, his spirit was being provoked within him, seeing the city being full of idols. ¹⁷So he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and those who were worshiping, and in the marketplace every day with those whom he met there. ¹⁸But also some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers began to argue with him. And some said, "What is this babbler wanting to say?" But others {said}, "He seems to be a proclaimer of foreign gods," because he was proclaiming the gospel about Jesus and the resurrection. ¹⁹And taking hold of him, they brought him to the Areopagus, saying, "Are we able to know what {is} this new teaching which is being spoken by you? ²⁰For you are bringing some strange things to our ears. Therefore, we want to know what these things want to be." ²¹(Now all the Athenians and the foreigners living there spent their time in nothing other than either to tell something or to listen to something new.) ²²And Paul, having been stood in the middle of the Areopagus, said,

"Men of Athens, I see that you are very religious in every way. ²³For passing through and observing your objects of worship, I even found an altar on which had been inscribed, "To an Unknown God." What therefore you worship in ignorance, this I announce to you. ²⁴The God who made the world and all that {is} in it, he, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples built with hands. ²⁵Neither is he served by hands of men, as though he needed anything, himself giving to all life and breath and all things. ²⁶And from one man he made every nation of men to live on all the face of the earth, having determined {their} appointed seasons and the boundaries of their habitation, ²⁷to seek God and perhaps they might feel around for him and find him. Yet he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸For in him we live and move and exist, as also a certain one of your own poets has said,

'For we also are {his} offspring.' ²⁹Therefore, being offspring of God, we ought not to consider the divine being to be like gold, or silver, or stone—images of the skill and imagination of man. ³⁰Therefore God, having overlooked the times of ignorance, now commands all men everywhere to repent, ³¹because he has set a day in which he is about to judge the world in righteousness by the man whom he has appointed. He has provided signs to all, having raised him from the dead."

³²Now when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked him; but others said, "We will hear you again concerning this matter." ³³So, Paul went out from their midst. ³⁴But certain men who joined him believed, among whom included Dionysius the Areopagite, and a woman named Damaris, and others with them.

Chapter 18

¹After these things, having departed from Athens, he went to Corinth. ²And when he found a certain Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, who had recently come from Italy, and Priscilla, his wife, because Claudius had ordered all the Jews to depart from Rome, he approached them, ³and because he was of the same trade, he stayed with them and worked, for they were tentmakers by trade. ⁴And he reasoned in the synagogue every Sabbath,

persuading both Jews and Greeks. ⁵But when both Silas and Timothy came down from Macedonia, Paul devoted himself to the word, solemnly testifying to the Jews Jesus to be the Christ. ⁶But as they are opposing and insulting him, shaking out {his} garment, he said to them, "Your blood be upon your head! I am clean! From now on I will go to the Gentiles." ⁷And having departed from there, he went to the house of a certain man named Titius Justus who worships God, whose house was next to the synagogue. ⁸But Crispus, the leader of the synagogue, believed in the Lord with all those in his house; and many of the Corinthians, hearing about it, were believing and were being baptized. ⁹And through a vision in the night, the Lord said to Paul, "Do not be afraid, but continue speaking and do not be silent. ¹⁰For I am with you, and no one will attack you to harm you, for I have many people in this city." ¹¹And so he stayed there for a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them.

¹²But Gallio being governor of Achaia, the Jews rose up together against Paul and brought him before the judgment seat, ¹³saying, "This one persuades men to worship God contrary to the law." ¹⁴But when Paul was about to open {his} mouth, Gallio said to the Jews, "O Jews, if it were some crime or evil wrongdoing, according to reason I would have endured you. ¹⁵But if these are questions about a word and names and your law, you will see to it yourselves. I do not want to be a judge of these matters." ¹⁶And so he sent them away from the judgment seat. ¹⁷But they all, having seized Sosthenes, the ruler of the synagogue, were beating him in front of the judgment seat. But none of these things mattered to Gallio.

¹⁸And Paul, after having stayed there many days, left the brothers {and} sailed to Syria, and Priscilla and Aquila {were} with him. He had cut the hair of {his} head in Cenchrea because he had a vow. ¹⁹And when they came to Ephesus, he left them there, but he himself, having gone into the synagogue, reasoned with the Jews. ²⁰But when they asked him to stay for a longer time, he did not consent. ²¹But having left them and having said, "I will return again to you, God is willing" he set sail from Ephesus.

²²And having landed at Caesarea, having gone up and having greeted the church, he went down to Antioch. ²³And having spent some time there, he departed, going through the region of Galatia and Phrygia in succession, strengthening all the disciples.

²⁴Now a certain Jew named Apollos, an Alexandrian by birth, an eloquent man, came down to Ephesus, being mighty in the Scriptures. ²⁵He had been instructed in the way of the Lord, and being fervent in spirit, he spoke and taught accurately the things concerning Jesus, knowing only the baptism of John. ²⁶And he began to speak boldly in the synagogue, but hearing him, Priscilla and Aquila took him aside and explained to him the way of God more accurately. ²⁷And when he desired to pass over into Achaia, the brothers encouraged him {and} wrote to the disciples to welcome him. When he arrived, he greatly helped those who had believed by grace. ²⁸For he was powerfully refuting the Jews publicly, showing by the Scriptures that Jesus is the Christ.

Chapter 19

¹And it happened that, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul passed through the upper parts to come down to Ephesus, and to find certain disciples. ²And he said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" But they said to him, "No, we have not even heard if there is a Holy Spirit." ³And he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" And they said, "Into the baptism of John." ⁴But Paul replied, "John baptized a baptism of repentance, telling the people that they should believe in the one who is coming after him, that is, in Jesus." ⁵And having heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ⁶And when Paul had laid {his} hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them and they began to speak in tongues and prophesy. ⁷And they were about 12 men in all.

⁸And having gone into the synagogue, he was speaking boldly for three months, reasoning and persuading them about the kingdom of God. ⁹But when some were hardened and being disobedient, speaking evil of the Way before the crowd, having departed from them, he took the disciples with him, reasoning with them each day in the lecture hall of Tyrannus. ¹⁰And this happened for two years, so that all those who lived in Asia heard the word of the Lord, both Jews and Greeks. ¹¹And God was doing not ordinary miracles by the hands of Paul, ¹²so that even

handkerchiefs and aprons from his body were taken to the sick and {their} illnesses departed from them, and the evil spirits came out of them. ¹³But some traveling Jewish exorcists also tried to call on the name of the Lord Jesus over those who had evil spirits, saying, "I command you by the Jesus whom Paul proclaims." ¹⁴And seven certain sons of Sceva, a Jewish chief priest, were doing this. ¹⁵But answering, an evil spirit said to them, "Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are you?" ¹⁶And the man in whom was the evil spirit, after leaping on them, overpowering them, prevailed over each of them so that they fled from that house naked and wounded. ¹⁷And this became known to all those living in Ephesus, both Jews and Greeks. And fear fell upon them all, and the name of the Lord Jesus was magnified. ¹⁸And many of those who believed were coming, confessing and declaring their deeds. ¹⁹And many of those who practiced the magical arts, having brought {their} books together, burned them before everyone. And they counted the value of them, and they found it to be 50,000 pieces of silver. ²⁰So the word of the Lord was spreading and prevailing according to power.

²¹Now as soon as this was completed, Paul determined in the Spirit to pass through Macedonia and Achaia to travel to Jerusalem, having said, "After I have been there, it is necessary for me also to see Rome." ²²And having sent to Macedonia two of those helping him, Timothy and Erastus, he himself stayed in Asia for a time.

²³But at about that time, there was no small disturbance concerning the Way. ²⁴For a certain silversmith named Demetrius, making silver shrines of Artemis, brought in not a little business for the craftsmen. ²⁵And he, having gathered together the workmen of that occupation, said, "Men, you know that our prosperity is from this business. ²⁶And you see and hear that, not only at Ephesus, but in almost all of Asia, this Paul has persuaded {and} turned away a considerable crowd. He is saying that the things that are being made with hands are not gods. ²⁷And not only is this trade in peril for us to come to disrepute, but that even the temple of the great goddess Artemis may be considered as nothing. And indeed, her majesty is about to be destroyed—she whom all Asia and the world worships." ²⁸And having heard this and having become filled with anger, they cried out, saying, "Great {is} Artemis of the Ephesians." ²⁹And the city was filled with confusion, and they rushed together into the theater, having seized Paul's Macedonian travel companions, Gaius and Aristarchus. ³⁰But when Paul was desiring to enter in among the people, the disciples did not permit him. ³¹And also, some of the officials of Asia who {were} his friends sent to him exhorted him not to offer himself in the theater. ³²So then different ones were shouting a different thing, for the assembly was confused, and the majority did not know for what reason they had come together. ³³And some from the crowd instructed Alexander, whom the Jews had pushed forward. And Alexander motioned with {his} hand, wanting to give a defense to the assembly. ³⁴But when they had become aware that he is a Jew, there was one voice from all of them, as for two hours they are crying out, "Great {is} Artemis of the Ephesians." ³⁵But when the town clerk had quieted the crowd, he says, "Men of Ephesus, what man indeed is there who does not know that the city of Ephesus is temple keeper of the great Artemis and of that which is fallen down from heaven? ³⁶So since these things are undeniable, it is necessary for you to be calmed and to do nothing rash. ³⁷For you brought these men {who are} neither robbers of temples nor blasphemers of our goddess. ³⁸Therefore, if Demetrius and the craftsmen with him have a word against anyone, the courts are open and there are proconsuls. Let them accuse one another. ³⁹But if you seek anything about other matters, it will be settled in the regular assembly. ⁴⁰For indeed we are in danger of being accused of rioting concerning this day. There is no reason about which we will be able to give an account concerning this disorder."^[1] ⁴¹And having said this, he dismissed the assembly.^[2]

19:40 ^[1]

19:41 ^[2]

Chapter 20

¹And after the uproar had ended, Paul summoned the disciples and after he encouraged them {and} said farewell, he departed to go to Macedonia. ²And when he had gone through those regions and had exhorted them with many words, he came to Greece. ³And after he had spent three months there, a plot was formed against him by the Jews as he is about to sail to Syria, so he decided to return through Macedonia. ⁴And accompanying him {were}

Sopater of Pyrrhus from Berea, and Aristarchus and Secundus from Thessalonica, and Gaius from Derbe, and Timothy, and Tychicus, and Trophimus from Asia. ⁵But they had gone before us {and} were waiting for us at Troas. ⁶And we sailed away from Philippi after the days of unleavened bread, and in five days we came to them in Troas, where we stayed for seven days.

⁷And on the first of the week, when we were gathered together to break bread, Paul spoke to them. He is about to depart the next day, and so he continued {his} message until midnight. ⁸And there were many lamps in the upper room where we were meeting together. ⁹And sitting on the window a certain young man named Eutychus, was falling into a deep sleep. As Paul is speaking even longer, having been overcome by sleep, he fell down from the third story and was picked up dead. ¹⁰But having gone down, Paul stretched out on him, and having embraced him, said, "Do not be upset, for his life is in him." ¹¹And when he had gone up and had broken bread and had eaten, he also talked with them much longer until dawn. In this way, he left. ¹²But they brought back the boy alive and were not moderately comforted.

¹³But we, having gone ahead to the ship, sailed away to Assos, from where we intended to take Paul on board, for thus he had arranged; he himself was intending to go on foot. ¹⁴And when he met us at Assos, taking him on board, we went to Mitylene. ¹⁵And having sailed from there we arrived the next day opposite Chios. And the following day, we landed at Samos, and the next day, we came to Miletus. ¹⁶For Paul had decided to sail past Ephesus, so that he would not spend time in Asia; for he was hurrying to be, if it was possible for him, in Jerusalem for the day of Pentecost.

¹⁷And from Miletus, having sent to Ephesus, he summoned the elders of the church. ¹⁸And when they came to him, he said to them,

"You yourselves know, from the first day from when I set foot in Asia, how I was with you the whole time, ¹⁹servicing the Lord with all humility and tears and trials that happened to me in the plots of the Jews; ²⁰how I kept back nothing that was useful which I did not declare to you, and I taught you in public and according to houses, ²¹testifying to both Jews and Greeks about repentance toward God and faith in our Lord Jesus. ²²And now, behold, I am going to Jerusalem, having been bound by the Spirit, not knowing what will happen to me in it, ²³except that the Holy Spirit testifies to me in every city, saying that chains and afflictions await me. ²⁴But I do not consider {my} life to myself the value of a single word, so as to finish my race and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to solemnly testify to the gospel of the grace of God. ²⁵And now, behold, I know that you all, among whom I went about proclaiming the kingdom, will see my face no more. ²⁶Therefore I testify to you this present day that I am innocent from the blood of all. ²⁷For I did not hold back from declaring to you the whole counsel of God. ²⁸Guard yourselves and all the flock among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers to shepherd the church of God, which he purchased with his own blood.^[1] ²⁹I know that after my departure, vicious wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. ³⁰Even from you yourselves, men will arise speaking perverted things to draw away the disciples after them. ³¹So be alert, remembering that for three years I did not stop admonishing each one with tears night and day. ³²And now I am entrusting you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified. ³³I coveted no one's silver or gold or clothing. ³⁴You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my needs and to those who were with me. ³⁵In all things, I showed you that in this way it is necessary to work hard to help those who are weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that he himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

³⁶And having said these things, having bowed his knees, he prayed with them all. ³⁷But there was much weeping among them all, and having fallen upon Paul's neck, they were kissing him, ³⁸grieving mostly because of the word which he had spoken, that they were never going to see his face again. And then they escorted him to the ship.

20:28 ^[1], this could be translated as

Chapter 21

¹And it happened that when we set sail, having been torn from them, having run a straight course, we came to Cos, and the next day to Rhodes, and from there to Patara. ²And when we found a ship crossing over to Phoenicia, having gone aboard, we set sail. ³And having sighting Cyprus and leaving it behind on the left, we sailed on to Syria and landed at Tyre, for the ship was to unload {its} cargo there. ⁴And having found the disciples, we stayed there seven days. Through the Spirit they kept saying to Paul not to go to Jerusalem. ⁵Now when our days to supply happened, having departed, we went on our way, they all with {their} wives and children accompanying us as far as outside the city. And having knelt down on the shore {and} having prayed, ⁶we said farewell to each other, and we went up into the ship, and they returned to their own.

⁷And when we had finished the voyage from Tyre, we arrived at Ptolemais, and having greeted the brothers, we stayed with them for one day. ⁸And on the next day, having departed, we went to Caesarea and, having entered into the house of Philip the evangelist, who was from the seven, we stayed with him. ⁹Now this man had four virgin daughters who prophesy. ¹⁰And as we stayed there for many days, a certain prophet named Agabus came down from Judea. ¹¹And having come to us and having taken Paul's belt, having bound his own feet and hands, he said, "Thus says the Holy Spirit, 'So the Jews in Jerusalem will bind the man who owns this belt, and they will hand him over into the hands of the Gentiles.'" ¹²And when we heard these things, both we and the local people were begging him not to go up to Jerusalem. ¹³Then Paul answered, "What are you doing, weeping and breaking my heart? For I am ready, not only to be bound, but also to die in Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus." ¹⁴But since he would not be persuaded, we remained silent, saying, "Let the will of the Lord happen."

¹⁵And after having made preparations these days, we went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁶And {some} of the disciples from Caesarea also came along with us, bringing us to Mnason, a certain early disciple from Cyprus, with whom we would stay.

¹⁷And when we had arrived in Jerusalem, the brothers welcomed us gladly. ¹⁸And the next day Paul went with us to James, and all the elders were present. ¹⁹And having greeted them, he reported according to each thing that God had done among the Gentiles through his ministry. ²⁰And when they heard it, they glorified God and said to him, "You see, brother, how many myriads there are who have believed among the Jews, and they are all zealous for the law. ²¹And they have been told about you, that you teach apostasy from Moses to all the Jews who {are} among the Gentiles, telling them not to circumcise {their} children, nor to walk in the customs. ²²What therefore is it? They will certainly hear that you have come. ²³So do this that we say to you. There are four men with us having a vow from themselves. ²⁴Having taken these men, be purified with them, and pay the expenses for them, so that they will shave {their} heads, and then everyone will know that what they have been told about you is false, but that you yourself walk in and obey the law. ²⁵But concerning the Gentiles who have believed, we sent, having given judgment to keep themselves from things sacrificed to idols, and from blood, and from what is strangled, and from sexual immorality." ²⁶Then Paul, having taken the men the next day, having been purified with them, went into the temple, announcing the fulfillment of the days of purification, until the offering which was offered for each one of them.

²⁷But when the seven days were about to be finished, the Jews from Asia, having seen Paul in the temple, stirred up the whole crowd, and laid {their} hands on him, ²⁸shouting, "Men of Israel, help us. This is the man who teaches all men everywhere against the people, and the law, and this place. And besides, he has both brought Greeks into the temple and has defiled this holy place." ²⁹For they had previously seen Trophimus the Ephesian with him in the city, whom they thought that Paul brought into the temple. ³⁰And the whole city was stirred up, and there became a mob of the people, and having laid hold of Paul, they dragged him outside the temple, and the doors were immediately shut. ³¹And as they were seeking to kill him, a report came up to the commander of the guard that all Jerusalem was stirred up. ³²Right away, having taken soldiers and centurions, he ran down to them. And when they saw the commander and the soldiers, they stopped beating Paul. ³³Then, having approached him, the commander laid hold of him and commanded him to be bound with two chains. And then he asked who he is and what it is that

he had done. ³⁴But different ones in the crowd were shouting different things. But he, not being able to find out anything for certain because of the noise, commanded that he be brought into the fortress. ³⁵But when he came to the steps, he had to be carried by the soldiers because of the violence of the crowd. ³⁶For the crowd of people followed after, shouting out, "Away with him!"

³⁷And as Paul is about to be brought into the fortress, he says to the commander, "If it is permitted for me to say something to you ...?" But he replied, "Do you know Greek? ³⁸Are you not then the Egyptian who before this day revolted and led the 4,000 men of the 'Assassins' out into the wilderness?" ³⁹But Paul said, "I am a Jewish man from Tarsus in Cilicia, a citizen of a not insignificant city. And I ask you, allow me to speak to the people." ⁴⁰And when he had given him permission, Paul, standing on the steps, motioned with {his} hand to the people. And when there was a deep silence, he spoke to them in the Hebrew language, saying,

Chapter 22

¹"Men, brothers, and fathers, listen to my defense to you now."

²And when they heard that he was speaking to them in the Hebrew language, they became even more quiet. And he said,

³"I am a Jewish man, born in Tarsus of Cilicia, but educated in this city at the feet of Gamaliel, instructed according to the strict ways of the law of our fathers, being zealous for God, just as all of you are today. ⁴I persecuted this Way as far as death, binding and delivering to prison both men and women, ⁵as also the high priest testifies for me, and all the elders from whom also having received letters to the brothers in Damascus, I was going there indeed to bring back in bonds to Jerusalem those who were there in order that they might be punished. ⁶And it happened to me that, traveling and nearing Damascus, about noon, suddenly a great light from heaven shone around me. ⁷And I fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to me, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?' ⁸And so I answered, 'Who are you, Lord?' And he said to me, 'I am Jesus the Nazarene, whom you are persecuting.' ⁹But those who were with me saw the light, but they did not understand the voice of the one who was speaking to me. ¹⁰But I said, 'What should I do, Lord?' And the Lord said to me, 'Having arisen, go into Damascus, and there you will be told about everything that has been appointed for you to do.' ¹¹And when I could not see because of the glory of that light, being led by the hands by those who were with me, I came into Damascus. ¹²And a certain Ananias, a devout man according to the law, being testified to by all the Jews who lived there, ¹³came to me and having stood by me, said to me, 'Saul, brother, look up.' And that very hour I looked up to him. ¹⁴And he said, 'The God of our fathers appointed you to know his will, and to see the Righteous One, and to hear the voice from his own mouth, ¹⁵for you will be a witness for him to all men about what you have seen and heard. ¹⁶And now why are you waiting? Having arisen, be baptized, and wash away your sins, having called on his name.' ¹⁷And it happened to me that when I had returned to Jerusalem and I was praying in the temple, I fell into a trance. ¹⁸And I saw him saying to me, 'Hurry and go away from Jerusalem in haste, because they will not accept your testimony about me.' ¹⁹And I said, 'Lord, they themselves know that I was imprisoning and beating those who believed in you according to the synagogues. ²⁰And when the blood of Stephen your witness was spilled, I myself also was standing by and agreeing, and guarding the outer garments of those who killed him.' ²¹But he said to me, 'Go, because I will send you far away to the Gentiles.'"

²²And they listened to him until this word, and then they lifted up their voice, saying, "Remove such a one from the earth, for it is not right for him to live." ²³And as they were shouting and throwing off {their} outer garments, and throwing dust into the air, ²⁴the commander commanded him to be brought in to the fortress, commanding him to be examined by flogging, so that he might know for what reason they were shouting against him like that. ²⁵But when they had stretched him out for the whip, Paul said to the centurion who was standing by, "If it is lawful for you to whip a man who is a Roman and uncondemned ...?" ²⁶And when the centurion heard this, having gone to the commander, he reported, saying, "What are you about to do? For this man is a Roman." ²⁷And so, having

come, the commander said to him, "Tell me, are you a Roman?" And he said, "Yes." ²⁸And the commander answered, "I bought this citizenship with a large amount of money." But Paul said, "I, however, was indeed born {as one}." ²⁹Then those who were about to examine him drew back from him immediately, and the commander also was afraid, having learned that he was a Roman, and that he had bound him.

³⁰And on the next day, wanting to know for certain that which he was being accused by the Jews, he released him and commanded the chief priests and all the Sanhedrin to assemble. And having brought down Paul, he placed him among them.

Chapter 23

¹And having looked directly at the Sanhedrin, Paul said, "Men, brothers, I have lived as a citizen before God in all good conscience until this day." ²But the high priest Ananias commanded those who stood by him to strike him on the mouth. ³Then Paul said to him, "God is about to strike you, you whitewashed wall. And do you sit judging me by the law, yet command me to be struck, against the law?" ⁴But those who stood by said, "Are you insulting the high priest of God?" ⁵And Paul said, "I did not know, brothers, that he is a high priest. For it is written,

You shall not speak evil of a ruler of your people."

⁶But when Paul realized that the one group was Sadducees and the other Pharisees, he shouted in the Sanhedrin, "Men, brothers, I am a Pharisee, a son of Pharisees. I am being judged concerning the hope and resurrection of the dead." ⁷And when he said this, an argument began between the Pharisees and Sadducees, and the crowd was divided. ⁸For the Sadducees say there is no resurrection, nor angels, nor spirits, but the Pharisees confess all of them. ⁹And so a large uproar occurred, and some of the scribes of the group of the Pharisees, having arisen, contended, saying, "We find nothing evil in this man. But what if a spirit has spoken to him, or an angel?" ¹⁰And when a great argument happened, the commander, having feared that Paul would be torn to pieces by them, commanded the soldiers to go down to seize him by force from the midst of them, and to bring him into the fortress.

¹¹But the following night the Lord, having stood beside him, said, "Have courage, for as you have testified to things concerning me in Jerusalem, so it is necessary also for you to testify in Rome."

¹²And when it became day, the Jews, having formed a conspiracy, cursed themselves, saying neither to eat nor to drink until they had killed Paul. ¹³And there were more than 40 who had formed this conspiracy. ¹⁴They, having gone to the chief priests and the elders, said, "We have cursed ourselves with a curse, to eat nothing until we have killed Paul. ¹⁵Now, therefore, you along with the Sanhedrin report to the commander as if you are going to examine more seriously the things concerning him, so that he will bring him down to you. But we are ready to kill him before his arrival." ¹⁶But having heard of the ambush, the son of the sister of Paul went and, having entered into the fortress, reported this to Paul. ¹⁷And so, having called one of the centurions, Paul said, "Take this young man to the commander, for he has something to report to him." ¹⁸So having taken him, he brought him to the commander and said, "The prisoner, Paul, having summoned me, asked me to bring this young man to you. He has something to say to you." ¹⁹So the commander, having taken hold of his hand and having withdrawn to a private place, asked him, "What is it that you have to report to me?" ²⁰So then he said, "The Jews have agreed to ask you that tomorrow you might bring Paul down to the Sanhedrin, as if they were going to inquire something more concerning him. ²¹Therefore you should not be persuaded by them, because more than 40 from these men lie in wait for him, who have cursed themselves neither to eat nor to drink until they have killed him. Even now they are ready, waiting for the promise from you." ²²So the commander dismissed the young man, having commanded him, "Tell no one that you have reported these things to me." ²³And having summoned a certain two of the centurions, he said, "Prepare 200 soldiers so that they might go as far as Caesarea, and 70 horsemen, and 200 spearmen from the third hour of the night, ²⁴and provide animals in order to, having set Paul on them, take him safely to Felix the governor." ²⁵Then he wrote a letter, having this form:

²⁶“Claudius Lysias to the most excellent Governor Felix, greetings. ²⁷This man, having been seized by the Jews and about to be killed by them, having come with detachment of soldiers, I rescued, having learned that he is a Roman. ²⁸And wanting to know the charge with which they accused him, I took him down to their Sanhedrin. ²⁹I learned that he was being accused concerning questions of their own law, but there was no accusation worthy of death or imprisonment. ³⁰And when a plot was to be against the man was revealed to me, immediately I sent him to you, also having commanded {his} accusers to speak against him in your {presence}.”

³¹So the soldiers, according to what had been commanded to them, having taken Paul, brought him by night to Antipatris. ³²And on the next day, having allowed the horsemen to continue with him, they returned to the fortress. ³³When they had entered into Caesarea and had delivered the letter to the governor, they also presented Paul to him. ³⁴And when he had read the letter and had asked what province he was from, and had learned that {he was} from Cilicia, ³⁵he said, “I will hear you fully when your accusers also may come here,” having commanded him to be kept in the palace of Herod.

Chapter 24

¹And after five days, Ananias, the high priest, with certain elders, and an orator, a certain Tertullus, came down, who appeared to the governor against Paul. ²And when he had been summoned, Tertullus began to accuse him, saying, “We have obtained great peace through you, and good reforms have happened to {our} nation through your foresight;

³both in every way and everywhere we acknowledge this, most excellent Felix, with all thankfulness. ⁴However, in order that we may not bother you any longer, I beg you to briefly listen to us in your kindness. ⁵For we have found this man to be a troublemaker and inciting rebellion among all the Jews who {are} throughout the world. Also, he is a leader of the sect of the Nazarenes. ⁶He even tried to desecrate the temple, and so we arrested him.^[1] [We wanted to judge him according to our law. ⁷^[2] But Lysias, the officer, having come, took him by force out of our hands, ⁸^[3] commanding his accusers to come to you.] Having inquired from him about all these matters, you yourself will be able to learn of what we are accusing him.” ⁹And the Jews also agreed, affirming that these charges were so.

¹⁰And the governor having motioned for him to speak, Paul answered, “Knowing that for many years you have been a judge to this nation, I gladly make my defense about the things concerning me.

¹¹You are able to find out that it has not been more than 12 days from when I went up to worship in Jerusalem.

¹²And they found me neither in the temple arguing with anyone, nor causing a rebellion of the crowd, neither in the synagogues, nor throughout the city. ¹³And they are not able to prove to you about that which they are now accusing me. ¹⁴But I confess this to you, that according to the Way that they call a sect, in that way I serve the God of our fathers, faithful to all that is according to the law and that has been written in the prophets. ¹⁵I have the hope in God which also these men themselves accept, that there is going to be a resurrection of both the righteous and the unrighteous. ¹⁶In this also I myself always strive to have a blameless conscience before God and men. ¹⁷Now after many years, I came to bring alms to my nation, and offerings. ¹⁸They found me in this, having been cleansed in the temple, not with a crowd nor with an uproar. ¹⁹But there are certain Jews from Asia who ought to be present before you and to make accusations, if they have anything against me. ²⁰Or let these here say what wrong they found when I stood before the Sanhedrin, ²¹other than about this one thing that I shouted when I stood among them, ‘I am being judged before you today concerning the resurrection of the dead.’”

²²And then Felix, more accurately knowing the things concerning the Way, adjourned them, saying, “When Lysias the commander may come down, I will decide the things concerning you.” ²³He had commanded the centurion for him to be kept in custody, but to have rest, and not to forbid his own friends to minister to him.

²⁴But after some days, having returned with Drusilla, his own wife, who was a Jewess, Felix summoned Paul and he heard him concerning the faith in Christ Jesus. ²⁵But as he is reasoning with him about righteousness, and self-control, and the judgment that is coming, Felix, having become frightened, answered, "Go away for now. But having found time, I will summon you." ²⁶At the same time, he also is hoping that money will be given to him by Paul, and therefore often summoning him, he was speaking to him. ²⁷But when two years had passed, Felix received a successor—Porcius Festus. But wanting to gain favor with the Jews, Felix left Paul imprisoned.

24:6 [1]

24:7 [2]

24:8 [3]

Chapter 25

¹Festus, then, having arrived in the province, after three days, went up from Caesarea to Jerusalem. ²Both the chief priests and the most prominent of the Jews made clear to him {the things} against Paul, and they begged him, ³requesting a favor against him—that he might summon him to Jerusalem—for an ambush was forming to kill him along the way. ⁴So Festus answered that Paul was being held at Caesarea, and that he himself was about to go there in haste. ⁵He said, "Therefore, the leaders among you, having come down together, if there is something wrong with the man, let them accuse him."

⁶And after he had stayed with them not more than eight or ten days, he went down to Caesarea. The next day, having sat in the judgment seat, he commanded Paul to be brought to him. ⁷And when he had come, the Jews who had come down from Jerusalem stood around him, bringing many and serious charges which they were not able to prove, ⁸Paul, saying in defense, "Neither against the law of the Jews, nor against the temple, nor against Caesar, have I sinned in anything." ⁹But Festus, wanting to do a favor for the Jews, answering Paul, said, "Are you willing to go up to Jerusalem and to be judged there before me about these things?" ¹⁰But Paul said, "I am standing before the judgment seat of Caesar, where it is necessary for me to be judged. I have done nothing wrong to the Jews, as you also very well know. ¹¹Therefore, if I have done wrong and have done anything worthy of death, I do not refuse to die. But if there is nothing of which they can accuse me, no one is able to hand me over to them. I appeal to Caesar." ¹²Then, after having talked with the council, Festus answered, "To Caesar you have appealed. To Caesar you will go!"

¹³Now after some days had passed, King Agrippa and Bernice, having come down to Caesarea, paid their respects to Festus. ¹⁴And while they were staying there for many days, Festus presented to the king the things concerning Paul, saying, "There is a certain man who has been left behind by Felix, a prisoner. ¹⁵When I was in Jerusalem, the chief priests and the elders of the Jews brought charges concerning him, requesting a judgment against him. ¹⁶I replied to them that it is not the custom of the Romans to hand over any man, or before the one who is accused may have {his} accusers face to face and receives an opportunity of a defense concerning the accusation. ¹⁷Therefore, when they had come together here, causing no delay, the next day, having sat in the judgment seat, I commanded the man to be brought in. ¹⁸When the accusers had stood up, they brought no charge concerning him of evil which I expected. ¹⁹Instead, they had certain disputes with him about their own religion and about a certain Jesus who was dead, whom Paul asserted to be alive. ²⁰And so I am uncertain about the things concerning this matter. I asked if he was willing to go to Jerusalem and there to be judged concerning these things. ²¹But when Paul had appealed for him to be kept for the decision of the emperor, I commanded him to be kept until when I might send him to Caesar." ²²And Agrippa replied to Festus, "I, myself, also was wanting to hear this man." "Tomorrow," he says, "you will hear him."

²³So on the next day, Agrippa and Bernice having come with much ceremony, and having entered into the hall with both the commanders and men who were prominent in the city, and having been commanded by Festus, Paul was brought in. ²⁴And Festus said, "King Agrippa, and all who are present with us, you see this man, concerning whom all the multitude of the Jews petitioned me both in Jerusalem and here also, shouting that he ought not to live any

longer. ²⁵But I learned that he had done nothing worthy of death; but he himself having appealed to the emperor, I decided to send him. ²⁶Concerning him, I do not have anything definite to write to my lord. For this reason, I have him before you, and especially before you, King Agrippa, so that after this examination has happened, I might have something to write. ²⁷For it seems unreasonable to me to send a prisoner and to not state the charges against him."

Chapter 26

¹And Agrippa said to Paul, "You are permitted to speak for yourself." Then Paul, having stretched out {his} hand, made {his} defense.

²"Concerning all the things of which I am accused by the Jews, King Agrippa, I consider myself blessed that I am going to make my defense before you today; ³especially since you are an expert according to all the Jewish customs and also {their} controversies. So I ask you to hear me patiently. ⁴Indeed then, all the Jews know the manner of my life which {was} from my youth, that from the beginning has been among my nation and in Jerusalem, ⁵Knowing me from the beginning, if they were willing to testify, that I lived as a Pharisee, according to the strictest sect of our religion. ⁶And now I stand here being judged because of my hope of the promise that was made to our fathers by God, ⁷to which our 12 tribes hope to attain, in earnest serving night and day. Concerning this hope, I am being accused by the Jews, O King. ⁸Why is it judged unbelievable among you that God raises the dead? ⁹Then, I thought to myself that it was necessary to do many things opposed to the name of Jesus the Nazarene. ¹⁰And I did these things in Jerusalem, and I even locked up many of the saints in prison, having received the authority from the chief priests. and when they were being put to death, I cast my vote against them. ¹¹And often punishing them in all the synagogues, I forced them to blaspheme, and being greatly enraged against them, I persecuted them even as far as to foreign cities. ¹²While doing this, traveling to Damascus with authority and a commission that {was} from the chief priests, ¹³in the middle of the day, along the road, O King, I saw a light from heaven, beyond the brightness of the sun, shining around me and those who were traveling with me. ¹⁴And when we all had fallen to the ground, I heard a voice speaking to me in the Hebrew language, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me? It is hard for you to kick against a goad.' ¹⁵And I said, 'Who are you, Lord?' And the Lord replied, 'I am Jesus whom you are persecuting. ¹⁶But get up and stand on your feet; because for this I appeared to you, to appoint you as a servant and a witness of both that which you have seen about me and of that which will be shown to you; ¹⁷rescuing you from the people and from the Gentiles, to whom I am sending you, ¹⁸to open their eyes to turn from darkness to light, and from the authority of Satan to God, for them to receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who have been sanctified by faith that {is} in me.' ¹⁹Therefore, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision; ²⁰but, to those in Damascus first, and also in Jerusalem, and in all the region of Judea, and to the Gentiles, I declared to repent and to turn to God, doing deeds worthy of repentance. ²¹For the sake of this, the Jews, having seized me in the temple, attempted to kill me. ²²Therefore having received help which is from God until this day, I stand, testifying to both small and great, saying nothing other than what both the prophets and Moses said is going to happen— ²³that the Christ {is} subject to suffering and that {as} the first from the resurrection of the dead, is going to proclaim light both to the people and to the Gentiles."

²⁴And as he is saying these things in his defense, Festus says with a loud voice, "Paul, you are insane; your great learning is turning you to insanity." ²⁵But Paul says, "I am not insane, most excellent Festus, but I am speaking words of truth and of sanity. ²⁶For the king knows about these things, to whom I am indeed speaking boldly, for I am persuaded that none of these things are hidden from him; for this was not done in a corner. ²⁷Do you believe the prophets, King Agrippa? I know that you believe." ²⁸But Agrippa said to Paul, "In a short time, are you persuading me to become a Christian?" ²⁹But Paul replied, "I pray to God for, either in a short time or in a long time, not you only, but also all those hearing me today to become such as I also am, but without these chains."

³⁰And then the king got up, and the governor, and Bernice, and those sitting with them; ³¹and when they had left, they talked to one another, saying, "This man is not doing anything worthy of death or of chains." ³²But Agrippa said to Festus, "This man was able to have been released if he had not appealed to Caesar."

Chapter 27

¹And when it was decided for us to sail to Italy, they handed over both Paul and some other prisoners to a centurion named Julius of the Augustan regiment. ²And having boarded a ship from Adramyttium, being about to sail to places along Asia, we set sail. Aristarchus, a Macedonian of Thessalonica, was with us. ³And the next day, we landed at Sidon, and Julius having treated Paul kindly, allowed him to go to {his} friends to receive {their} care. ⁴And from there, having put to sea, we sailed under Cyprus because of the winds that were against us. ⁵And when we had sailed across the sea past Cilicia and Pamphylia, we came to Myra of Lycia. ⁶And there, the centurion having found a ship from Alexandria sailing to Italy, he put us on it. ⁷And sailing slowly for many days and having arrived with difficulty near Cnidus, the wind no longer allowing us to go that way, we sailed along Crete, opposite Salmone. ⁸And sailing along it with difficulty, we came to a certain place called Fair Havens, which was near the city of Lasea.

⁹But much time having passed, and the voyage already being dangerous because even the fast had already passed, Paul was warning them, ¹⁰saying to them, "Men, I see that the voyage is about to be with injury and much loss, not only of the cargo and the ship, but also of our lives." ¹¹But the centurion paid more attention to the pilot and to the owner of the ship than the things spoken by Paul. ¹²But the harbor being unsuitable for wintering, the majority made a decision to sail from there, if somehow they might be able to arrive at Phoenix, to spend the winter there—a harbor in Crete, looking toward the southwest and toward the northwest. ¹³And when a south wind had blown gently, thinking they obtained {their} purpose, after they had weighed anchor, they sailed along close to Crete. ¹⁴But not long after, a violent wind called the northeaster rushed down from it. ¹⁵And having been seized and the ship not being able to face into the wind, having given way, we were driven along. ¹⁶But sailing under the lee of a certain island called Cauda, we were able with difficulty to gain control of the lifeboat. ¹⁷Having hoisted it up, they used ropes, binding the ship. And fearing lest they might run aground on Syrtis, having lowered the sea anchor, thus they were driven along. ¹⁸But with us being exceedingly battered by the storm, the next day, they began the jettisoning of the cargo. ¹⁹And on the third day, they threw overboard the equipment of the ship with their own hands. ²⁰But neither sun nor stars appearing for many days, and no small storm assaulting us, all remaining hope for us to be saved was taken away. ²¹And after being a long time without food, then having stood up in the midst of them, Paul said, "You men should indeed have obeyed me, to not set sail from Crete, and to suffer this injury and loss. ²²But now this I urge you, to take courage, for there will be no loss of life among you, but {only} of the ship. ²³For this night an angel of the God of whom I am and whom I serve, stood beside me ²⁴saying, 'Do not be afraid, Paul. You must stand before Caesar, and behold, God has graciously granted to you all those who are sailing with you.' ²⁵Therefore take courage, men! For I trust God that thus it will be, according to the way it was told to me. ²⁶But we must run aground upon some island."

²⁷And when the fourteenth night came, as we were being driven this way and that in the Adriatic Sea, about the middle of the night the sailors thought that they were approaching some land. ²⁸And taking soundings, they found 20 fathoms; but when they had gone a little further, and again taking soundings, they found 15 fathoms. ²⁹And fearing that we might crash somewhere against a rugged place, having lowered four anchors from the stern, they prayed for daytime to come. ³⁰But as the sailors were seeking to flee from the ship, and as they had lowered the lifeboat into the sea on a pretext as if intending to lower anchors from the bow, ³¹Paul said to the centurion and to the soldiers, "If these do not stay in the ship, you are not able to be saved." ³²Then the soldiers cut away the ropes of the lifeboat and let it fall away. ³³And up until it was about to become daytime, Paul urged them all to take food, saying, "Today {is} the fourteenth day, anxiously waiting, you are continuing fasting, having eaten nothing. ³⁴Therefore, I urge you to take food, for this is for your salvation. For a hair from the head of none of you will perish." ³⁵And having said this and having taken bread, he gave thanks to God before everyone, and having broken bread, he began to eat. ³⁶And they were all encouraged and themselves took food. ³⁷And in all, we were 276 souls

in the ship. ³⁸And when they had eaten enough food, they lightened the ship, throwing out the wheat into the sea. ³⁹And when it was daytime, they did not recognize the land, but they saw a certain bay having a beach, onto which they discussed whether they might be able to drive the ship. ⁴⁰And having cut loose the anchors, they left them in the sea. At the same time, having loosened the bands of the rudders and having raised the foresail to the wind, they headed to the beach. ⁴¹But having come to a place between two seas, the ship ran aground, and the bow of the ship having stuck there, it remained immovable, but the stern was breaking up by the violence of the waves. ⁴²Now the plan of the soldiers was that they would kill the prisoners lest some of them, having swum away, would escape. ⁴³But the centurion, wanting to save Paul, stopped their plan, and so he commanded those who were able to swim, first having jumped overboard, to get to the land, ⁴⁴and then the rest, some on planks, and some on other things from the ship, and in this way, it happened that all were brought safely to the land.

Chapter 28

¹And having been brought safely through, we then learned that the island was called Malta. ²And the native people offered to us not ordinary kindness, for having lit a fire, they welcomed us all, because of the rain that was beginning, and because of the cold. ³But when Paul had gathered a certain quantity of sticks and had placed them on the fire, a viper, having come out from the heat, fastened on to his hand. ⁴And when the native people saw the creature hanging from his hand, they said to one another, "This man certainly is a murderer, who having been saved from the sea, justice has not permitted him to live." ⁵Then, he, shaking off the snake into the fire, suffered no harm. ⁶But they were expecting him to begin to become inflamed or to suddenly fall down dead. But watching him for a long time and seeing nothing unusual happening to him, having changed their minds, they said that he is a god.

⁷Now in the {area} near that same place were lands of the most important man of the island, named Publius, who having welcomed us, kindly entertained us for three days. ⁸And it happened that the father of Publius was lying sick, having been afflicted with fever and dysentery. Paul went to him and having prayed, having placed {his} hands on him, he healed him. ⁹And after this happened, the rest of those on the island who had sickness also were coming and were being healed. ¹⁰They also honored us with many honors, and when we were setting sail, they gave us the things for {our} needs.

¹¹And after three months, we set sail in an Alexandrian ship that had wintered at the island, with a "Twin Gods" figurehead. ¹²And having landing at Syracuse, we stayed three days. ¹³Having sailed from there, we arrived at Rhegium, and after one day, a south wind having sprung up, we came to Puteoli the next day. ¹⁴Having found brothers there, we were begged to stay with them for seven days, and in this way, we came to Rome. ¹⁵From there, the brothers, having heard the things about us, came to a meeting with us as far as The Forum of Appius and The Three Taverns. Having seen them, Paul, having thanked God, took courage.

¹⁶And when we entered into Rome, Paul was allowed to stay by himself with the soldier guarding him.

¹⁷And it happened that after three days, he called together those who were the most important of the Jews. And when they had come together, he said to them, "Men, brothers, having done nothing opposed to the people or the customs of {our} fathers, I was delivered as a prisoner from Jerusalem into the hands of the Romans. ¹⁸After they had questioned me, they were intending to release me, because there is no reason in me for a death penalty. ¹⁹But the Jews objecting, I was forced to appeal to Caesar—not as if I have anything to accuse my nation. ²⁰Therefore, for this reason, I summoned you, to see and to speak with you. For I am bound with this chain because of the hope of Israel." ²¹But they said to him, "We neither received letters from Judea about you, nor have any of the brothers come {and} reported or said anything evil about you. ²²But we want to hear from you what you think, for concerning this sect, it is known to us that it is spoken against everywhere."

²³And when they had appointed a day for him, more people came to him at his lodging. He was explaining to them, testifying about the kingdom of God and persuading them about Jesus, both from the law of Moses and from the

prophets, from morning until evening. ²⁴And some were convinced about the things which he was saying, but others did not believe. ²⁵And being in disagreement with one another, they left after Paul had spoken one word, "The Holy Spirit spoke well through Isaiah the prophet to your fathers ²⁶saying, 'Go to this people and say,

"By hearing you will hear, but you will certainly not understand;

and by seeing you will see, but you will certainly not perceive.

²⁷For the heart of this people has become dull,

and with {their} ears they hardly heard,

and they shut their eyes.

Otherwise they might see with {their} eyes,

and might hear with {their} ears,

and might understand with {their} heart and might turn again,

and I will heal them."

²⁸Therefore, let it be known to you that this salvation of God has been sent to the Gentiles, they also will hear." ²⁹^[1]
[And when he had said these things, the Jews went away, having a great dispute among themselves.]

³⁰And he stayed for two whole years in his own rented house, and he was welcoming all those who are coming to him, ³¹proclaiming the kingdom of God and teaching the things about the Lord Jesus Christ with all boldness, without hindrance.

28:29 ^[1]

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