

# The Journeys of Paul

“The Journeys of Paul, Part 8” (May 31, 2026)  
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As we speed through Paul’s journeys in the Book of Acts, today we come to **Jerusalem**.

Here, like everywhere else, Paul is met with both **encouragement** and **animosity**.

Acts 21:17

*When we arrived at Jerusalem, the brothers received us warmly.*

Acts 21:30

*The whole city was aroused, and the people came running from all directions. Seizing Paul, they dragged him from the temple, and immediately the gates were shut.*

Paul’s message to the people in Jerusalem demonstrates the **essence** of the Christian **witness**.

Acts 22:6-16

*“About noon as I came near Damascus, suddenly a bright light from heaven flashed around me. I fell to the ground and heard a voice say to me, ‘Saul! Saul! Why do you persecute me?’*

*“Who are you, Lord?” I asked.*

*“I am Jesus of Nazareth, whom you are persecuting,” he replied. My companions saw the light, but they did not understand the voice of him who was speaking to me.*

*“What shall I do, Lord?” I asked.*

*“Get up,” the Lord said, “and go into Damascus. There you will be told all that you have been assigned to do.” My companions led me by the hand into Damascus, because the brilliance of the light had blinded me.*

*“A man named Ananias came to see me. He was a devout observer of the law and highly respected by all the Jews living there. He stood beside me and said, ‘Brother Saul, receive your sight!’ And at that very moment I was able to see him.*

*“Then he said: ‘The God of our ancestors has chosen you to know his will and to see the Righteous One and to hear words from his mouth. You will be his witness to all people of what you have seen and heard. And now what are you waiting for? Get up, be baptized and wash your sins away, calling on his name.’”*

We **tell** what we have **seen** and what we have **heard**.

Acts 4:20

*“As for us, we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard.”*

Paul exerts his **rights** to further the **Gospel**.

Acts 22:25-28

*As they stretched him out to flog him, Paul said to the centurion standing there, “Is it legal for you to flog a Roman citizen who hasn’t even been found guilty?”*

*When the centurion heard this, he went to the commander and reported it. “What are you going to do?” he asked. “This man is a Roman citizen.”*

*The commander went to Paul and asked, “Tell me, are you a Roman citizen?”*

*“Yes, I am,” he answered.*

*Then the commander said, “I had to pay a lot of money for my citizenship.”*

Paul speaks **truth**.

Acts 23:6-9

*Then Paul, knowing that some of them were Sadducees and the others Pharisees, called out in the Sanhedrin, “My brothers, I am a Pharisee, descended from Pharisees. I stand on trial because of the hope of the resurrection of the dead.” When he said this, a dispute broke out between the Pharisees and the Sadducees, and the assembly was divided. (The Sadducees say that there is no resurrection, and that there are neither angels nor spirits, but the Pharisees believe all these things.)*

*There was a great uproar, and some of the teachers of the law who were Pharisees stood up and argued vigorously. “We find nothing wrong with this man,” they said. “What if a spirit or an angel has spoken to him?”*

It all comes down to one thing: **spreading** the **Good News** of **Jesus**.

Acts 20:24

*However, I consider my life worth nothing to me; my only aim is to finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me—the task of testifying to the good news of God’s grace.*