

# The Journeys of Paul

## WEEK 9 | ROME | ACTS 28:11-31

### Inspection – “What does it say?”

Read verse 20. For what reason was Paul bound with chains in Rome?  
How were the “people everywhere” reacting to the “sect” according to verse 22?  
What two bodies of evidence did Paul use to persuade the Jews about Jesus in verse 23?  
What did Paul want the Jews to know in his closing argument? (verse 28)  
How did Paul proclaim and teach about Jesus Christ in verse 31?

### Observation – “What does it mean?”

Read Acts 26:15-18. In what ways was Paul the perfect messenger to the Gentiles?  
What important points did Paul make to the Jewish leadership in verse 17?  
How can Christians balance “hope” and “chains” as we read about in verse 20?  
What is the importance of Paul quoting Isaiah historically in the context of his current situation in verses 26-27?  
What unique protections are we able to enjoy in proclaiming the gospel in America as Paul did in Rome?

### Life Application – “What does it mean for me?”

Consider how your perceived obstacles in life can help further the Gospel.  
Make a list of those who are in “chains” and pray for their boldness in Christ.  
Paul quotes Isaiah 6. Read Isaiah chapter 7 and consider its importance in the voice of the prophets.  
Find verse 29 in your Bible footnotes. How does this process of “arguing” promote health?  
Paul boards a ship with the figureheads of “Castor” and “Pollux” in verse 11.  
Consider how culture and the church meet in promoting the cause of Christ.

### Meditation – “What does God say?”

Psalms 68:5-6

Psalms 69:33

Isaiah 61:1-3

Matthew 25:34-40

Mark 2:17

Romans 8:1-3

Romans 12:10-16

Hebrews 10:24-25

## Supplication: What Can We Meditate?

### O God, Our Help in Ages Past

O God, our help in ages past,  
Our hope for years to come,  
Our shelter from the stormy blast,  
And our eternal home:

Under the shadow of Your throne  
Your saints have dwelt secure;  
Sufficient is Your arm alone,  
And our defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood  
Or earth received her frame,  
From everlasting You are God,  
To endless years the same.

A thousand ages in Your sight  
Are like an evening gone,  
Short as the watch that ends the night  
Before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream,  
Bears all its sons away;  
They fly, forgotten, as a dream  
Dies at the opening day.

O God, our help in ages past,  
Our hope for years to come,  
Be Thou our guard while troubles last  
And our eternal home.

**Author: Isaac Watts**