

Message Notes *Deployed into Chains...thriving in His story!*

Paul Before the Sanhedrin

¹ Paul looked straight at the Sanhedrin and said, "My brothers, I have fulfilled my duty to God in all good conscience to this day." ² At this the high priest Ananias ordered those standing near Paul to strike him on the mouth. ³ Then Paul said to him, "God will strike you, you whitewashed wall! You sit there to judge me according to the law, yet you yourself violate the law by commanding that I be struck!" ⁴ Those who were standing near Paul said, "How dare you insult God's high priest!"

⁵ Paul replied, "Brothers, I did not realize that he was the high priest; for it is written: 'Do not speak evil about the ruler of your people.'^[a]"

⁶ 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." ⁷ When he said this, a dispute broke out between the Pharisees and the Sadducees, and the assembly was divided. ⁸ (The Sadducees say that there is no resurrection, and that there are neither angels nor spirits, but the Pharisees believe all these things.)

⁹ 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?" ¹⁰ The dispute became so violent that the commander was afraid Paul would be torn to pieces by them. He ordered the troops to go down and take him away from them by force and bring him into the barracks.

¹¹ The following night the Lord stood near Paul and said, "Take courage! As you have testified about me in Jerusalem, so you must also testify in Rome."

The Plot to Kill Paul (vs.12-22)

Paul Transferred to Caesarea

²³ Then he called two of his centurions and ordered them, "Get ready a detachment of two hundred soldiers, seventy horsemen and two hundred spearmen^[b] to go to Caesarea at nine tonight. ²⁴ Provide horses for Paul so that he may be taken safely to Governor Felix." ²⁵ He wrote a letter as follows:

²⁵ He wrote a letter as follows:

²⁶ Claudius Lysias,
To His Excellency, Governor Felix:

Greetings.

²⁷ This man was seized by the Jews and they were about to kill him, but I came with my troops and rescued him, for I had learned that he is a Roman citizen. ²⁸ I wanted to know why they were accusing him, so I brought him to their Sanhedrin. ²⁹ I found that the accusation had to do with questions about their law, but there was no charge against him that deserved death or imprisonment. ³⁰ When I was informed of a plot to be carried out against the man, I sent him to you at once. I also ordered his accusers to present to you their case against him.

³¹ So the soldiers, carrying out their orders, took Paul with them during the night and brought him as far as Antipatris. ³² The next day they let the cavalry go on with him, while they returned to the barracks. ³³ When the cavalry arrived in Caesarea, they delivered the letter to the governor and handed Paul over to him. ³⁴ The governor read the letter and asked what province he was from. Learning that he was from Cilicia, ³⁵ he said, "I will hear your case when your accusers get here." Then he ordered that Paul be kept under guard in Herod's palace.

What about looking at this story with _____ as the Hero and key figure – not Paul or us!

Paul and all of us are being invited into this story of how the Kingdom of God works as it breaks into humanity's world!

What is God (through Luke) trying to tell us?

How is God trying to form me and shape me in His ongoing quest to "make us into disciples of Jesus"?

Things to notice about the DEPLOYED life:

- **These stories are _____ stories! It's about what He is doing and how He works in and through and in-spite-of people and circumstances and evil and brokenness and!**

We don't control the story but we get to _____ to it! God, how are you _____ me?

- **Christ-followers often experience unexplainably _____ and sometimes _____ realities in the course of following Jesus and becoming His disciples!**
- **God's vision for what He is doing in this world is bigger than we can _____ and the _____ at His disposal are greater and more _____ than we can imagine!**
- **God knows it is hard! He knows our sinfulness, the reality of evil and the brokenness in our world! E _____ to live by faith and in obedience will be there! R _____ it!**

Philippians 4 ⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. ¹² I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. ¹³ I can do all this through him who gives me strength.

Dear Lord Jesus,

**I SURRENDER myself and my agenda for this day in my life to You!
I RECIEVE You and Your agenda for me! And now I will ACT like it in faith-filled obedience! Amen**