Power to Witness in Word and Deed —Part 2

The Book of Acts
Acts 21:27—22:29

Read Acts 21:27-39.

1.	What are the charges that the Jews from Asia use to turn the crowd against Paul? (v. 28)	
2.	As you consider your study of Acts, how true do you think these charges are? (See also v. 29.)	
3.	The accusations against Paul are not new; Jesus and Stephen faced similar charges. How do the accusations of the Jewish people show what they value most? (6:13–14; 21:20–21; 4 Mt. 26:59–61)	
4.	Who protects Paul as the mob tries to kill him? (vv. 31–32, 35)	
5.	Why would Paul's arrest not have been a complete surprise to him? (20:22–23; 21:10-11)	
6.	What does Paul know as he experiences this injustice and hatred? (9:15–16; 20:24; 🕮 Rom. 8:28–39)	
Read Acts 21:40—22:21.		
7.	Paul is granted an opportunity to speak to his accusers. a. How does he address them? (vv. 21:40—22:1)	
	b. Whom does this address echo? (6:15—7:2)	
	c. What does Paul stress about himself (and Ananias in verse 12) to connect with the angry crowd? (vv. 3–5)	

^{*}The $\hfill \Box$ symbol indicates verses for further study.

8.	Paul's defense is a testimony to God's transformational work in his life. How would you summarize his main points in the three sections of his speech? vv. 3–5
	vv. 6–16
	vv. 14–21
9.	This is the first time we hear Paul himself tell his conversion story. Why do you think he chooses to give his testimony to this crowd in Jerusalem?
Read Acts 22:22–29.	
10.	The crowd has silently listened to God's amazing intervention in Paul's life. a. What is it that they cannot bear to hear? (vv. 21–22a)
	b. How does the crowd in Jerusalem respond? (v. 22)
	c. Why do they react this way? (1 Thess. 2:14b–16a)
11.	The crowd's actions in verse 23 show their complete rejection of Paul. a. In rejecting Paul, who else are they rejecting? (9:15; 22:18)
	b. What judgment are they bringing upon themselves through this rejection? (1 Thess. 2:16)
12.	The commander makes at least two errors in his interactions with Paul. What are they? 21:38–39
	22:25–26, 29
13.	How does this passage show one way God has prepared Paul even from birth for his ministry to the Gentiles? (v.28; 4 17:26–27)
14.	God has also carefully prepared you from birth to be his witness. How has God used your unique background and experiences for his glory?