

# **Trouble at Jerusalem**

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## I. Introduction.

A. Text: Acts 21:27-22:29.

B. Scripture is very honest with its portrayal of its characters.

II. Jesus desired that Paul would avoid trouble at Jerusalem because He saw that Paul's effort would be fruitless, but Paul could not see this.

## III. Paul tries to win the Jews over.

A. He reminds them he was a Jew.

B. He speaks Aramaic.

C. He identifies with the nation.

D. He reminds them that his teacher was a great Rabbi.

E. He reminds them of his zeal.

F. Paul falls back on the most powerful form of witness--his testimony. Whenever one gives his testimony, he becomes the world's foremost authority on the subject.

## IV. Paul's commission.

A. He was chosen to know the Word of God and pattern it for others.

1. Paul needed to understand that the will of God was a relationship with Jesus.

2. The will of God is not an itinerary.

## V. Paul's confrontation with Jesus.

VI. The Jews were deeply offended that the Gentiles had been brought into the covenant.

A. The Christian suffers from this attitude of pride as well.

B. The grace God gives is to be shared with others.

VII. God finds a way to work things out for us in His grace.

## **Application questions:**

1. How is Paul's attempt to win the Jews over a model for believer's evangelizing others today?

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2. What was significant about Paul's revelation of the central goal of his faith?

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3. In what ways do Christians suffer from pride that is similar to the Jews of Paul's day? What practical advice would you give a Christian struggling with the area of pride? Explain.

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