

## **Beware of Details**

*Warren Wiersbe*

### I. Introduction.

A. Text: Acts 21.

B. There are three important questions regarding Acts 21.

### II. Was Paul wrong in going to Jerusalem?

A. Warnings are not always prohibitions.

B. In the beginning God kept Paul away from Jerusalem, God warned him that his testimony would not be accepted and ultimately Paul was delivered unto the enemy at Jerusalem. Therefore, Paul was probably wrong.

C. Paul's road to Jerusalem was not a departure--it was a detour.

D. We take detours in the Christian life. The detour is always rougher than the main road.

### III. Why did Paul go to Jerusalem?

A. Paul was a man burdened for Israel. The fact that a person has a burden does not mean that God will make it happen in that person's way. (Romans 9)

B. Paul had good motives--he wanted to glorify Jesus Christ.

### IV. What lessons can we learn from this?

A. Obey the will of God in spite of circumstances.

1. Man's logic often falls short of God's wisdom.

2. We should not build our lives on subjective feelings.

B. We are never too old to go on detours.

C. The value of Christian fellowship. Paul was resisting the guidance of God from Spirit led friends.

D. Good motives never excuse disobedience. (Romans 3:8)

E. Even though we go on detours, Christ will not forsake us. Where God cannot rule, he overrules.

**Application questions:**

1. When have you chosen detours? What did God teach you? Explain.

---

---

2. Does God always get us off the detour in this life? Defend your answer.

---

---

3. What kind of detours do you think Christians are most prone toward? Explain.

---

---