

Paul Faces Governor Felix

Acts 24

PART TWO (read vv1-9)

Introduction

Paul stands before Governor Felix accused of three serious charges: *sedition*, *sectarianism*, and *sacrilege*.

Acts 25:8

Paul's strategy

Tertullus

Flattery as Fawning Fakery – a Fool's False Front

Jeremiah 5:1-3

Jeremiah 7:28

Psalms 5:9

Job 32:18-22

"A man who flatters his neighbor spreads a net for his feet." Proverbs 29:5

"Flattery" = 'insincere praise'; 'try to please to win favor'

Encouraging someone is not flattery, it is kindness. It is, in fact, commanded (cf Heb. 10:24-25).

A Warning about those who Wear the Wardrobe of religion and Weaponize God's Word:

2 Corinthians 11:12-15

The Danger of Duplicity that Denies the Dominance of Deity.

Psalms 12:1-4

A man without a heart is cold-blooded. A man with a double heart is duplicitous and dangerous (Judas).

Psalms 50:16-17

In Christ, we are one Body in one Spirit with one Heart, one Word, one Mind, and one Voice.

Ezekiel 11:19-21

Jeremiah 32:38-40

2 Chronicles 30:12

Zephaniah 3:9

Psalms 12:6

John 17:22-23

“those who believed were of one heart and soul” Acts 4:32

1 Thessalonians 2:3-6

When sincere men pay you a compliment, they are being kind.

When deceitful men ‘pay you a compliment’ they are using flattery to invest in a friendship, to gain favor, to purchase trust.

Romans 16:17-19

Through his faithful, steadfast, unshakeable witness for Christ, the apostle Paul shows us the way:

1. Keep a clear conscience.
2. Do not fear anyone but God.
3. Speak only what is true.
4. Resist the temptation to flatter those you stand to gain from.
5. Do what God says.
6. Submit to authority; whether fair and kind, or mean and surly.
7. Don't give up.