

Acts of the Apostles
Paul in Rome (Acts 28:17-31)

Introduction

-Rome, a great city; a wicked city; having significant potential as a center for the evangelization of the Empire

-Parallels between Jesus (Luke Vol. 1: Gospel of Luke) and Paul (Luke Vol. 2: Acts of the Apostles)

I. Paul's Reason for his Presence in Rome (vs. 17-22)

-Paul had done nothing against the Jews. The Romans had nothing against Paul. Paul had nothing against the Jews. He was a prisoner because of Israel's messianic expectation fulfilled in Jesus.

II. Paul's Presentation of Christ in Rome (vs. 23-28)

-Kingdom of God; Christ (v. 23)

-Response (v. 24)

-Paul's Warning (vs. 25-27)

-Jewish Rejection → Gentile Reception (v. 28)

III. Paul's Subsequent Confinement in Rome (vs. 30, 31)

-Paul was chained, but the Word of God was not.

-Conversions: Onesimus (Philemon v. 10)

-Paul's Subsequent History (according to tradition)

-v. 29 probably should not be included

-Luke's Purpose: exhibit the transition of the kingdom from Israel as a nation to the whole human family (Gen. 12:3 22:18)

-Acts 1:8 not yet completely fulfilled

-Acts of the Apostles → Acts of the Followers of Christ

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Practical Lessons

- 1) We have every reason to be confident about the trustworthiness of our Bibles.

- 2) There are times when you should defend yourself.

- 3) Paul's certainty and confidence about his calling were rooted in his understanding of God's purposes revealed in His Word.

- 4) We may be confident that in every situation the Judge of all the earth will do right.

- 5) The response of the unbelieving Jews to the gospel is a solemn warning to all.