



## Bible Study Notes

Book of Acts Part 101  
February 9, 2021

**God uses ordinary people.**

**God takes what the enemy meant for evil, and uses it for good.**

### Acts 28:17-31

<sup>17</sup> Three days later he called together the local Jewish leaders. When they had assembled, Paul said to them: "My brothers, although I have done nothing against our people or against the customs of our ancestors, I was arrested in Jerusalem and handed over to the Romans. <sup>18</sup> They examined me and wanted to release me, because I was not guilty of any crime deserving death. <sup>19</sup> The Jews objected, so I was compelled to make an appeal to Caesar. I certainly did not intend to bring any charge against my own people. <sup>20</sup> For this reason I have asked to see you and talk with you. It is because of the hope of Israel that I am bound with this chain."

<sup>21</sup> They replied, "We have not received any letters from Judea concerning you, and none of our people who have come from there has reported or said anything bad about you. <sup>22</sup> But we want to hear what your views are, for we know that people everywhere are talking against this sect."

<sup>23</sup> They arranged to meet Paul on a certain day, and came in even larger numbers to the place where he was staying. He witnessed to them from morning till evening, explaining about the kingdom of God, and from the Law of Moses and from the Prophets he tried to persuade them about Jesus. <sup>24</sup> Some were convinced by what he said, but others would not believe. <sup>25</sup> They disagreed among themselves and began to leave after Paul had made this final statement: "The Holy Spirit spoke the truth to your ancestors when he said through Isaiah the prophet:

<sup>26</sup> "Go to this people and say,  
"You will be ever hearing but never understanding;  
you will be ever seeing but never perceiving."

<sup>27</sup> For this people's heart has become calloused;  
they hardly hear with their ears,  
and they have closed their eyes.

Otherwise they might see with their eyes,  
hear with their ears,  
understand with their hearts  
and turn, and I would heal them.'

<sup>28</sup> "Therefore I want you to know that God's salvation has been sent to the Gentiles, and they will listen!" <sup>[29]</sup>

**Footnote: Some manuscripts include here *After he said this, the Jews left, arguing vigorously among themselves.***



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<sup>30</sup> For two whole years Paul stayed there in his own rented house and welcomed all who came to see him. <sup>31</sup> He proclaimed the kingdom of God and taught about the Lord Jesus Christ—with all boldness and without hindrance!

**Paul's main concern was to preach Jesus.**

### 1 Corinthians 2:1-2

<sup>1</sup> And so it was with me, brothers and sisters. When I came to you, I did not come with eloquence or human wisdom as I proclaimed to you the testimony about God. <sup>2</sup> For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and him crucified.

**The simplicity of the Gospel: It's all about Jesus!**

**It is because of Jesus' finished work on the cross that we can spend eternity with Him in heaven!**

**Who do you say Jesus is?**

### John 14:6

<sup>6</sup> Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

### Philippians 2:6-11

<sup>6</sup> Who, being in very nature God,  
did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;  
<sup>7</sup> rather, he made himself nothing  
by taking the very nature of a servant,  
being made in human likeness.  
<sup>8</sup> And being found in appearance as a man,  
he humbled himself  
by becoming obedient to death—  
even death on a cross!

<sup>9</sup> Therefore God exalted him to the highest place  
and gave him the name that is above every name,  
<sup>10</sup> that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
<sup>11</sup> and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.



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*The most powerful weapon we have is the name of Jesus.*

*It is in Jesus' name that we are saved.*

### **Acts 4:12**

*<sup>12</sup> Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved."*

*Did all people who heard Paul's message believe?*

*God gave us free will to accept or reject the Gospel.*

*Hell will not be full of people God rejected – but full of people who rejected God.*

### **1 Corinthians 1:18**

*<sup>18</sup> For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.*

*Did Paul meet with Caesar?*

*The Book of Acts is about the Gospel of Jesus Christ going into the world. It is not a biography of Paul.*

### **Acts 27:24**

*<sup>24</sup> ... 'Do not be afraid, Paul. You must stand trial before Caesar; and God has graciously given you the lives of all who sail with you.'*

### **Philippians 4:22**

*<sup>22</sup> All God's people here send you greetings, especially those who belong to Caesar's household.*

*The best way to interpret scripture is with scripture.*

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