



Week 18 Acts 21-26 Back to Jerusalem

21:1-6 Journey from Miletus to Tyre

As he stated in 21:22, Paul is now heading steadfastly to Jerusalem. What his purpose is in going is not clearly stated by Luke.

1) What do you make of 21:4, does the Spirit not want Paul to go?

21:7-11 The prophet Agabus

2) In Ptolemais, Paul stays with Philip “the evangelist” (see Acts 8 for background on his ministry). In this passage we learn that the daughters of Philip are all unmarried prophetesses. What theme of Luke’s does this connect into? (see Luke 2:36; Acts 2:18).

3) Agabus, a prophet from Judea, comes to Ptolemais and gives a message to Paul – v. 11. What is the intent of this message from the Holy Spirit? Why do we not typically receive prophetic messages like this?

21:12-16 Paul’s response

4) What do we learn about Paul’s character in this passage? What parallels do we have between the gospel story of Jesus’ arrest and this story leading up to Paul’s arrest? What differences are there?

5) What do you read behind the final line of v. 14, “The Lord’s will be done.” Do you think the believers there are clear about what the Lord’s will is?

21:17-26 Arriving at Jerusalem

6) What response would you expect from Paul when he hears the request from the Jerusalem church? Why do you think Paul went along with the purification rite?

7) When we experience cultural clashes between generations or ethnic groups or genders, does Paul’s example show us a way forward? What is applicable in our situations, and what aspects are unique to Paul’s situation?