

¹⁷ When we came to Jerusalem, the brothers welcomed us with pleasure. ¹⁸ During that day, Paul was with us in front of Jacob the brother of Jesus. Then, when all the elders came forth, ¹⁹ Paul embraced them and began explaining each one of the things the Creator did among the nations through his service. ²⁰ After listening, they began declaring the triumph of the Creator and said to Paul,

“You are seeing, brother, how many thousands there are among the Judeans, who have become trusting, and how all of them are nationalists possessing the Torah. ²¹ They have been warned about you—that you teach all the Judeans throughout the nations to stand away from Moses, saying that they should not circumcise their children or walk according to the customs. ²² What then will happen when everyone hears that you have come?

²³ Therefore, do what we tell you. There are four men with us having a vow upon themselves. ²⁴ Taking these along, be cleansed with them and pay their offering so they will shave their heads. Then, all will know that there is nothing to the things they have been warned about, but that you are marching in line and guarding the same Torah. ²⁵ We ourselves wrote a letter about those of the nations, who have become trusting—judging them to guard against idol-sacrifice, blood, what has been suffocated, and prostitution.”

²⁶ Paul took the men along that day and was cleansed with them. Then, he entered into the temple-complex to reveal the fulfillment of their days of cleansing and to bring the offering on behalf of each one of them. ²⁷ As Paul’s seven days were about to be completed, the Judeans from the province of Asia saw him in the temple-complex and began stirring up the whole crowd. They threw hands upon him, ²⁸ shouting,

“Men! Israelites! Help! This person is the one teaching—everyone, everywhere—against the people, the Torah, and this place! He also brought Greeks into the temple-complex and has made this divine place common!”

²⁹ For they had previously seen Trophimus from Ephesus with Paul in the city and they began supposing that Paul brought him into the temple-complex. ³⁰ The whole city was moved and the people rushed together. Taking Paul, they began hauling him outside of the temple-complex and immediately the doors were closed. ³¹ As they were seeking to kill Paul, news went up to the thousand-leader of the company of soldiers that all of Jerusalem was being stirred up. ³² Instantly taking soldiers and hundred-leaders, the thousand-leader ran down upon them. Seeing the thousand-leader and the soldiers, they stopped hitting Paul. ³³ When the thousand-leader was within grasp, he took Paul and instructed him to be bound with two chains. He began inquiring about who Paul was and what he had done. ³⁴ Others in the crowd began voicing to one another. Not being able to know without fail, because of the disturbance, the thousand-leader instructed Paul to be brought into the barracks. ³⁵ When he came upon the stairs, Paul had to be carried by the soldiers because of the force of the crowd. ³⁶ The multitude of the people began following, while shouting,

“Take him away!”

³⁷ While he was about to be brought into the barracks, Paul said to the thousand-leader,

“Is it appropriate for me to speak to you?”

The thousand-leader enlightened,

“You know Greek? ³⁸ So you are not the one from the province of Egypt, the one who revolted before these days and brought four thousand of the Daggermen out into the wilderness?”

³⁹ Paul said,

“I am a Judean person from Tarsus in the province of Cilicia, a citizen of a significant city. I am begging you, permit me to speak to the people.”

⁴⁰ After being permitted, Paul, having stood upon the stairs, shook a hand at the people. After many became silent, Paul voiced to them in the Hebrew dialect, saying,

^{22.1} “Men! Brothers and fathers! Listen now to my word for you!”

² Hearing that he began voicing to them in the Hebrew dialect, they began providing more attention and Paul enlightened,

³ “I am a Judean man, born in Tarsus of the province of Cilicia, but nurtured in this city. Disciplined at the feet of Gamaliel, according to the accuracy of the Torah of our fathers, I was possessing nationalism for the Creator like all of you are today. ⁴ I hunted down the Way, even till death, binding and giving

over both men and women to the guards, ⁵ as the leader of the temple-caretakers and all the elders can testify about me. After receiving letters from them, I began going to the brothers in Damascus to bring them to Jerusalem in bondage, so they would be punished. ⁶ While I was going and was within grasp of Damascus at about midday, light from heaven suddenly flashed around me. ⁷ I fell to the ground and listened to a voice saying to me,

‘Saul! Saul! Why are you hunting me down?’

⁸ I answered,

‘Who are you, Lord?’

He said to me,

‘I am Jesus of Nazareth, the one you are hunting down.’

⁹ Those with me saw the light, but did not understand the voice which was speaking to me. ¹⁰ Then I said,

‘What should I do, Lord?’

The Lord said to me,

‘Stand up! Go into Damascus! There you will be told about all the things it has been ordered for you to do.’

¹¹ Since I was not seeing, because of the triumph of that light, I came into Damascus, while being brought by the hand of those with me. ¹² Ananias, a man attentive to the Torah, as is testified by all the Judeans dwelling there, ¹³ came to me, stood over me, and said,

‘Brother Saul! See again!’

At that hour I saw again because of him. ¹⁴ Ananias said,

‘The Creator of our fathers hand-picked you to know his desires, to see the just one, and to listen to the voice from his mouth. ¹⁵ You will be a testimony for him to all humanity of the things you have seen and listened to. ¹⁶ What are you to do now? Stand up! Be baptized and wash away your rebellions, calling upon his name!’

¹⁷ After turning back to Jerusalem and while I was praying, I became beside myself ¹⁸ and saw Jesus saying to me,

‘Speedily and with haste, come out from Jerusalem because they will not receive your testimony about me!’

¹⁹ I said,

‘Lord, they themselves are aware that I was putting those trusting you under guard and binding them throughout the synagogues. ²⁰ When the blood of your testimony, Stephen, was being poured out, I myself was standing over him, approving it and guarding the garments of those executing him.’

²¹ Jesus said to me,

‘Go! I will send you far away to the nations!’”

²² They were listening to Paul till he said this word and then they lifted up their voice, saying,

“Take this one from the earth! It is not fitting for him to live!”