

ACTS 21

PAUL'S ARREST

Chapter 21

Summary: At Tyre Paul is warned against going to Jerusalem (1-4). He is warned again at Caesarea. Despite many pleadings, he is determined to go to Jerusalem (5-14).* He arrives in Jerusalem with a good report and a financial gift from mostly Gentile churches (15-19). They rejoice, but worry about Jewish opinion that Paul tells Jews to forsake Moses. For appeasement they want Paul to perform certain Jewish rituals (20-25). Paul performs them**, is beaten, and is arrested (26-36). Paul requests and is permitted by the Roman commander to speak to the Jews (37-40).

Lesson: *As Paul does for Israel (Rom. 10:1), so we want salvation for all.*

*[Is Paul in God's will? Yes: 1) these warnings don't prohibit his going, but test and deepen his resolve; 2) Acts 20:22, 21:14, and 23:11 imply it; and 3) they fulfill God's promise in 9:16: *"I will show him how many things he must suffer for My name's sake".*]

**[Is Paul wrong to perform this apparent Nazirite vow (Num. 6:13-17)? No. For his motive see 1 Cor. 9:20. This is appeasement for the sake of custom, not salvation or sanctification.]