### Acts

## Chapter 25

1It was just three days after Festus had been appointed the provincial governor that he traveled from It was just three days after Festus had been appointed the provincial governor that he traveled from <span class="placename">CaesareaIt was just three days after Festus had been appointed the provincial governor that he traveled from <span class="placename">Caesarea</span> to It was just three days after Festus had been appointed the provincial governor that he traveled from <span class="placename">Caesarea</span> to <span class="placename">JeruSalemIt was just three days after Festus had been appointed the provincial governor that he traveled from <span class="placename">Caesarea</span> to <span class="placename">JeruSalem</span> – 2and there the Chief Priests and and there the Chief Priests and <span class="placename">Judeanand there the Chief Priests and <span class="placename">Judean</span> leaders talked to him about Paul.  
  
3They begged him (asking it as a favor) to send [Paul] to They begged him (asking it as a favor) to send [Paul] to <span class="placename">JeruSalemThey begged him (asking it as a favor) to send [Paul] to <span class="placename">JeruSalem</span>… Since they planned to ambush and kill him along the road.  
  
4However, Festus replied that he would just keep Paul in However, Festus replied that he would just keep Paul in <span class="placename">CaesareaHowever, Festus replied that he would just keep Paul in <span class="placename">Caesarea</span>. But, because he would be leaving [However, Festus replied that he would just keep Paul in <span class="placename">Caesarea</span>. But, because he would be leaving [<span class="placename">JeruSalemHowever, Festus replied that he would just keep Paul in <span class="placename">Caesarea</span>. But, because he would be leaving [<span class="placename">JeruSalem</span>] shortly, he said to them:  
  
 5‘Those of you who have been empowered to do so should come back with me, and if he’s committed some crime, you can make your accusations against him there.’  
  
  
  
6Well, after he’d spent about 8 to 10 days [in Well, after he’d spent about 8 to 10 days [in <span class="placename">JeruSalemWell, after he’d spent about 8 to 10 days [in <span class="placename">JeruSalem</span>], Festus returned to Well, after he’d spent about 8 to 10 days [in <span class="placename">JeruSalem</span>], Festus returned to <span class="placename">CaesareaWell, after he’d spent about 8 to 10 days [in <span class="placename">JeruSalem</span>], Festus returned to <span class="placename">Caesarea</span>. And the next day, he sat on the Judgment Seat and ordered to have Paul brought in.  
  
7And when [Paul] arrived, the Jews that had come from And when [Paul] arrived, the Jews that had come from <span class="placename">JeruSalemAnd when [Paul] arrived, the Jews that had come from <span class="placename">JeruSalem</span> stood all around him and charged him with several serious offenses… However, they couldn’t prove anything.  
  
8Then Paul stood up and spoke in his own defense, saying:  
  
 ‘I haven’t committed any sins against the Law of the Jews, against ‘I haven’t committed any sins against the Law of the Jews, against <span class="placename">the Temple ‘I haven’t committed any sins against the Law of the Jews, against <span class="placename">the Temple</span>, or against Caesar!’  
  
9However, Festus (in an attempt to gain favor with the However, Festus (in an attempt to gain favor with the <span class="placename">JewsHowever, Festus (in an attempt to gain favor with the <span class="placename">Jews</span>) asked Paul:  
  
 ‘Do you want to go back to ‘Do you want to go back to <span class="placename">JeruSalem ‘Do you want to go back to <span class="placename">JeruSalem</span> and be judged over these things before me there?’  
  
10But Paul said:  
  
 ‘I’m standing before the Judgment Seat of Caesar, and this is where I ought to be judged!  
  
 ‘I’ve done nothing wrong to the ‘I’ve done nothing wrong to the <span class="placename">Judeans ‘I’ve done nothing wrong to the <span class="placename">Judeans</span>, as you’re finding out for yourself.  
  
 11‘However, if I’m really a criminal and have done something that I should die for, I’m not begging off from dying.  
  
 ‘On the other hand, if nothing they’re accusing me of is true, then nobody can just hand me over to them as a favor!  
  
 ‘Therefore, I appeal to Caesar!’  
  
12Well after discussing it with his counselors, Festus replied:  
  
 ‘You have appealed to Caesar, so to Caesar you’ll go!’  
  
  
  
13Then after several days had passed, Agrippa (the king) and Bernice [the king’s sister] arrived in Then after several days had passed, Agrippa (the king) and Bernice [the king’s sister] arrived in <span class="placename">CaesareaThen after several days had passed, Agrippa (the king) and Bernice [the king’s sister] arrived in <span class="placename">Caesarea</span> to pay a courtesy visit on Festus.  
  
14So, since they were to spend several days there, Festus laid the matter of Paul before the king, saying:  
  
 ‘There’s a man here who was left as a prisoner by Felix.  
  
 15‘When I was in ‘When I was in <span class="placename">JeruSalem‘When I was in <span class="placename">JeruSalem</span>, the Chief Priests and ‘When I was in <span class="placename">JeruSalem</span>, the Chief Priests and <span class="placename">Judean‘When I was in <span class="placename">JeruSalem</span>, the Chief Priests and <span class="placename">Judean</span> elders brought me some information about him and asked me to condemn him to death.  
  
 16‘But I told them that it isn’t the ‘But I told them that it isn’t the <span class="placename">Roman‘But I told them that it isn’t the <span class="placename">Roman</span> way to just hand a man over as a favor before he meets his accusers face-to-face and gets a chance to speak in his own defense.  
  
 17‘So when they got here, I didn’t delay the matter… The next day I sat down on the Judgment Seat and ordered the man to be brought in. 18And when they came [before me], his accusers didn’t really produce any serious charges as I thought they would... 19They simply complained about some dispute that they had with him over questions about their religion and about some ‘Jesus’ who was dead, but whom Paul kept claiming was alive!  
  
 20‘Well, I became so confused over the matter that I finally asked if he’d like to go to ‘Well, I became so confused over the matter that I finally asked if he’d like to go to <span class="placename">JeruSalem‘Well, I became so confused over the matter that I finally asked if he’d like to go to <span class="placename">JeruSalem</span> to be judged there over these matters. 21But then Paul appealed to be bound over for a decision by the August One, so I ordered him to be held until I can send him to Caesar.’  
  
22So Agrippa told Festus:  
  
 ‘I’d also like to hear from this man.’  
  
And he said:  
  
 ‘You’ll hear him tomorrow!’  
  
  
  
23Then the next day, Agrippa and Bernice arrived with a lot of pomp and ceremony and went into the hearing room along with some military commanders and prominent men from the city.  
  
And when Festus gave the command, Paul was brought in.  
  
24So Festus said:  
  
 ‘O King Agrippa, and all who are here with us,  
  
 ‘Now you can see this man about whom all the ‘Now you can see this man about whom all the <span class="placename">Judeans ‘Now you can see this man about whom all the <span class="placename">Judeans</span> both here and in ‘Now you can see this man about whom all the <span class="placename">Judeans</span> both here and in <span class="placename">JeruSalem ‘Now you can see this man about whom all the <span class="placename">Judeans</span> both here and in <span class="placename">JeruSalem</span> are shouting that he shouldn’t be allowed to live any longer.  
  
 25‘However, I haven’t found anything that he’s done to deserve death; so when he appealed to the August One, I decided to send him there… 26But I really don’t have anything to write to [my] lord about.  
  
 ‘Therefore, I brought him here before you… And especially before you, King Agrippa, so that you can examine him and judge something that I can write to him about.  
  
 27‘For it seems unreasonable to send a prisoner [to ‘For it seems unreasonable to send a prisoner [to <span class="placename">Rome‘For it seems unreasonable to send a prisoner [to <span class="placename">Rome</span>] and not be able to specify the charges against him.’