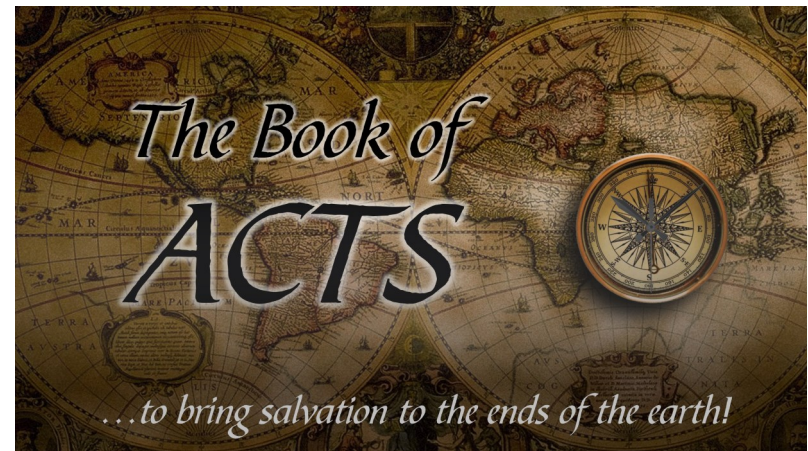


How do you think Paul's experiences in Acts 23 shaped his ministry and his understanding of God's sovereignty? How can this be applied to our lives?

Read Acts 23:11. What impact do you think this might have had on Paul's state of mind? Why?



**March 3, 2024 • Acts 23 • Paul's Second Defense**

Scripture References

Acts 23 • Ezekiel 13:10-16

Exodus 22:28 • Romans 8:28

The Story of Joseph - Genesis chapters 37, 39-50

**Prayer Requests**

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- 1) Paul did not just call Ananias a hypocrite - he was predicting God's \_\_\_\_\_ on the high priest.
- 2) Acts 23:5 "... for the Scriptures say, 'You must not \_\_\_\_\_ of any of your rulers.\* ' "

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Video and notes available at [www.gbcsl.com](http://www.gbcsl.com)

- 3) The Jewish religious group called \_\_\_\_\_ did not believe in a resurrection or a spiritual realm. The \_\_\_\_\_ believed in both.
- 4) In Acts chapter 23 we learn that situations that might seem like a \_\_\_\_\_ can actually turn out to be a \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) Paul had no reason to think that \_\_\_\_\_ would save his life several times.
- 6) Paul's situation is reminiscent of the story of \_\_\_\_\_ in the Old Testament, where things that seem terrible are turned into blessings. (Genesis 37, 39-50)
- 7) When Joseph reveals himself to his brothers he tells them, "What you meant for \_\_\_\_\_, God meant for \_\_\_\_\_."
- 8) Like the stories of Paul and Joseph, situations in our lives can be \_\_\_\_\_ by the power of God.
- 9) The Bible tells us that in every situation, God is working for our \_\_\_\_\_, transforming evil into blessing.



### **Small Group Discussion Questions**

Please try to think these over and jot down some ideas prior to discussing them at the meeting, it will improve the discussion.

Have you ever faced a situation that seemed terrible, but eventually you saw that God was working on your behalf? Describe that to the group.

What can we learn from Paul's approach to dealing with both the religious leaders and the Roman authorities?

Discuss the significance of Paul's appeal to his Roman citizenship. Why did he reveal his citizenship and what implications does this have for our understanding of citizenship and rights?

Continued on reverse.