

Paul Before the Sanhedrin
Lesson 6
Acts 22:24b-3:11

Paul stood before the quieted crowd presenting his testimony in Aramaic. At first they listened, but when he said the Lord had told him to go to the Gentiles, the crowd erupted. They began throwing their coats and dust in the air while shouting that Paul was not fit to live.

Roman Citizen Paul – Acts 22:24-29

1. With the crowd out of control, what were the Commander's orders to his soldiers? (Acts 22:24)
 - Why?

2. Using Acts 22:25:
 - What were the soldiers doing?

 - What did Paul ask them?

3. The centurion in charge went to the Commander with Paul's news. What was his report? (Acts 22:26)

4. The Commander would personally verify the truth of the report. What was his question to Paul? (Acts 22:27b)
 - Paul's answer (Acts 22:27b)

 - The Commander's comment (Acts 22:28a)

 - Paul's reply (Acts 22:28b)

5. Using Acts 22:29, how did this exchange of information affect:
 - Those who were ready to question Paul?
 - The Commander?

The Sanhedrin – Acts 22:30 – 23:11

6. The next day the Commander *“wanted to find out exactly why Paul was being accused by the Jews.”* (Acts 22:30a) What was his plan to gain this information? (Acts 22:30)
7. The Sanhedrin is like a Jewish Supreme Court. Did Paul seem afraid of this powerful ruling body? (Acts 23:1a)
8. Standing before them, how did Paul begin his defense? (Acts 23:1)
9. How was this introduction received in the Sanhedrin? (Acts 23:2)
10. What was Paul's response to this? (Acts 23:3)
11. Shock went through the whole Sanhedrin. What was the reaction of those standing near Paul? (Acts 23:4)
12. Paul was respectful as he answered with, “Brothers.” What did Paul say that he did not realize? (Acts 23:5a)
 - Paul was a Pharisee (lawyer) so he quoted the law from Exodus 22:28. What was that law? (Acts 23:5b)

13. As he looked around the room, what did Paul take note of? (Acts 23:6a)
- Using that to his advantage, how did Paul begin to lay out his defense? (Acts 23:6b)
14. What effect did Paul's defense have on the Sanhedrin? (Acts 23:7)
15. What was Luke's editorial note, in parentheses, to help his Gentile readers? (Acts 23:8)
16. Review the reason that Paul was standing before the Sanhedrin. (Acts 22:30)
17. How did Luke describe the scene in the Sanhedrin at this point in Paul's "trial?" (Acts 23:9-10a)
- Once again the Commander had to step in. What was his order? (Acts 23:10b)
18. **Reflect:** If you were Paul that day, what do you think you'd be feeling and thinking?
19. The Lord knew Paul's heart and just what Paul needed. What did the Lord do? (Acts 23:11)