

44-Acts-Pt21-Transcript

well that opening unfortunately is recent footage from a rally against protesting Donald Trump's presidencies now the president-elect for the United States and I found myself caught up in one of these rallies when I was in Philadelphia and I think it's an appropriate clip for what we're going to be looking at and I apologize I saw some foul language there and I apologize for that but I think it's an appropriate clip for the group of chapters were going to be covering this evening around Paul the Apostle Paul at just what a polarizing figure he was and I think not that Donald Trump has anything remotely close to Paul's character but just in our day and age you see how polarizing he is and people either love him or hate him and most people don't even know him but they hear things about him and they go on those assumptions or those fears that they have about him and that's exactly what we're going to see as the Apostle Paul enters Jerusalem so welcome back to Wednesday night Bible study let's begin with a prayer and get straight into the study of Acts chapter 21 and 22 this evening Heavenly Father we come before you lowered and we praise you and just thank you so much for your word and the opportunity that we have to study your word to study the Holy Spirit to understand how the Holy Spirit works and how it worked in the Apostle Paul and so father help us to understand and we just thank you so much for the opportunity that we have and pray that you'll bless us as we study your word so we left last week in Acts chapter 20 where Paul was leaving Ephesus and he caught it actually he didn't get to

Ephesus he got to miley system called
the elders with him spoke with them
warned them of what was going to happen
to the ephesian church and he was
enroute to Jerusalem and was really
pressed to get to Jerusalem so by
Pentecost and so here in chapter 21 we
begin
came to pass after we that saw Luke and
Paul and the company that were with them
were gotten from them that's the elders
that were in my lead us and had launched
so they're now in the ship and they've
launched and we came with straight
course unto coos and the day following
unto roads and you'll notice now as Luke
is writing he continues to give us a
sense of the passage of time that's
because they're they're working against
the clock there Dave they've got seven
sabbaths or fifty days before Pentecost
from the beginning in the count from
unleavened bread and so here the day
following their inroads and from there
in patara and you'll see then in patara
they found a ship that was sailing over
to Phoenicia and so they boarded that
ship and set forth and he says and now
when we had discovered Cyprus we left it
on the left hand and sailed into Syria
and landed at tired so just give just to
give you a sense here you'll see that
emphasis is in Asia he didn't make it to
Ephesus he was in my letus in carrier
the province of carrier and from there
he went down to coos from Coos they
stopped at rhodes and and then on to
Patera and then they seems like they
disembarked from that ship and then they
found another ship that was going from
Patara to tire in Phoenicia so they got
on that ship and then you can see that
they passed south of Cyprus they
probably stopped there for a bit i'm not

sure but he says they discovered Cyprus is like you're sailing in the middle of the sea and then finally you see land and then they passed on the south and they came to Phoenicia and so he continues then they landed a tire for their the ship was to unlaid her burden so the ship was seems like was a cargo ship and it was heading to tire and that's where they then disembarked and when they got to tire it shows us here that they found disciples their entire and they stayed with those disciples another seven days so again is giving us a sense of the passage of time as they count toward Pentecost and trying to beat the clock and get to Jerusalem by Pentecost and he said who's this one of the disciples there said to Paul through the spirit that he should not go up to Jerusalem we're going to see something here where the Spirit is telling disciples to tell Paul no are there inspired by the spirit to tell Paul him not to go to Jerusalem and then we see Paul inspired by the spirit to go to Jerusalem so there's some sort of a conflict here that we need to to sort through so he said to Paul through the spirit that he should not go up to Jerusalem and when we had accomplished those days we departed so after a week they left there and we went our way and they all brought us on our way with wives and children so what that means that they all brought us on their way basically they gave them money and they gave them provision to continue their journey within and enough for the wives and children until we were out of the city and then we kneel down on the shore and we prayed and again we see that the Apostle was a praying man they these of these the early church it was a praying

church and so here they kneel down on the shore and they prayed and when we had taken our leave one of another we took ship and they returned home again and so now they're sailing across the along the coast are trying to get to Jerusalem and when we had finished our course from tyre we came to Ptolemais and again just to remind you where they are then they've landed in Phoenicia their entire and instead of going by land they took ship to ptolemy and then you're going to see the next stop is says areia and then finally they're going to go by land and get to Jerusalem so he says here that they came to ptolemy and saluted the brethren that were installed at Ptolemais and they stayed with them one day and then the next day we were we that were of Paul's company left and came to area and we entered into the house of Phillip notice it calls him the evangelist so Phillip is the evangelist which was one of the seven and abode with him so Phillip was one of the seven so here we can look at in those days when the number of disciples was multiplied there arose a murmuring of the Grecians against the Hebrews because of their the widows were neglected in the daily administration and so they called the disciples together and asked them to look out and find seven men of full of the Holy Spirit and they will continue in prayer in the Ministry of the word and that pleased everybody and they found Steven a man full of faith in the Holy Spirit and also Phillip and then the other men that they found as well so Phillip is one of the Deacons and we must never underestimate or undermine the role of the Deacon I think sometimes we think deacons are some sort

of you know sub member in the you've got to promote them if you know if they've been a deacon for ten years it's like Oh something's wrong that Deacon is just a stepping stone to to ministry and it's not Deacon is an ordained office it's a very specific office and it's an honorable office and here you'll see in Timothy when Paul says that those who have used the office of Deacon well purchased to themselves a good degree and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus so the Deacon now yes that's a particular function in the body but we know that Stephen even though he was a deacon he gave brilliant sermons and he was inspired and he evangelized the Jews that were there in Jerusalem and so it seems that like Philip like oh I'm Stephen Philip also has this gift of evangelizing and so this same Philip had four daughters they were virgins which did prophecy so here we have a Deaconess evangelizing and we also have his daughters are prophesying and again we need to be careful about our view of women in the church and yes it's very clear that they're not to be in a ministerial role but at the same time it doesn't mean that they cannot prophecy and clearly this would perhaps be outside of the of the temple but they were probably there were prophetesses in the time of the early church and this man had four daughters which were prophetesses and as we had stayed there many days there came down from Judea a certain prophet named aqaba so there's four prophetesses and now there's another prophet called agra bus and a lot of people think that you know there's no such thing as prophets well well there are and they are inspired by

the Holy Spirit and they're not there to aggrandize themselves anybody who comes saying I'm a profit I'm great I'm full of the Holy Spirit we completely dismiss that but certainly we don't dismiss the fact that there are there is a role for profits and certainly there was in the early church and there will be with the two witnesses as they come and prophecy so here this man called Oedipus is a prophet and he comes and joins them and when he was come unto us he took Paul's girdle so this is quite a dramatic scene now he takes Paul's girdle and he bound his own hands and feet and he said thus says the Holy Spirit so shall the Jews at Jerusalem binds the man that owns this girdle and shall deliver him into the hands of the Gentiles so so Paul is being warned repeatedly that when he goes to Jerusalem he's going to suffer the Jews in Jerusalem are not going to tolerate him and so when we heard these things both we and they of that place so so the company that was with Paul and the people that lived there they begged Paul not to go up to so they could see very clearly and they were inspired by the Holy Spirit to understand and to see what was going to happen to Paul when he goes to Jerusalem so because they understood what was going to happen to him or they could see what was going to happen to him they automatically assumed that that's a terrible thing and Paul should not go to Jerusalem so they're begging him not to go then Paul answered so there's this sort of pleading you know Paul don't go into Jerusalem but Paul answered what do you mean to weep and to break my heart for I am ready not to be bound only so so they profit is warning him that he's going to be bound he saying you know

what I'm ready for that but not just for that I'm also ready to die at Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus so so this is the sort of commitment that Luke is sharing with I forgot his name now that the gentleman who's who is writing to it'll come to me in a moment but he's writing to him to try to get him to understand the commitment that the Apostle Paul had and so here Paul is ready to die for Christ and he's going to consider it an honor should he died for Christ so being bound the fact that the Holy Spirit is telling other bus that Paul is going to be bound like that's nothing I'm ready to die and so when he would not be persuaded they stopped saying the will of the Lord we done so then after those days we took up our characters and we went to Jerusalem and so again just to remind you where they are they're there now leaving cesaria and they're on their way now to Jerusalem and so there went with us also certain of the disciples of says Arrius some of those people in that place they came with Paul and with Paul's company and brought with them one nation of Cyprus and all disciple with whom we should lodge and when we came to Jerusalem the Brethren received us gladly so remember there was this intense persecution in Acts chapter 8 of the disciples and the all the disciples fled

you know took the gospel to surrounding areas in Judea as they were told that they would be witnesses to in Jerusalem and Judea Samaria and then the whole world but the Apostles stayed in Jerusalem and they continued to preach the gospel despite the intense persecution that was taking place in Jerusalem so while Paul and its various

journeys while he's going through galatia and Cappadocia and Asia and Macedonia and he's going through all of the Gentile territories the Apostles remained in Jerusalem and continued to preach and evangelize despite the persecution that was taking place in Jerusalem so now Paul is coming back to Jerusalem and the Brethren there receive him gladly the following day Paul went in with us unto James and all the elders were present and again note multiple elders in each city it's not this idea that there's one minister / city multiple elders in each city and when we he had saluted them he declared particularly and in detail what things God had brought among the Gentiles by his ministry so he's gone all several times now through the Gentile territories and I was coming back to Jerusalem he's received gladly he's sharing with them everything that has happened in detail in my new detail with through his ministry with the Gentiles and when they heard it they glorified the Lord and said unto Him you see brother how many thousands of Jews there are which believe and they are all zealous of the law note they are zealous of the law which is great but notice that James says to him that there are thousands of Jews thousands that believe so this is the courage that these apostles had remaining in Jerusalem and preaching the gospel in Jerusalem and now here's the fruit there are thousands of Jews that believe but there's a problem Paul has been going through the Gentile territory for years and his his fame has spread and word has come back to Jerusalem and these Jews in Jerusalem are Jews yes there are Christians but they're Jews

and they are very zealous and very specific and very particular about the law and they are informed of you that you teach all the Jews which are among the Gentiles to forsake Moses saying that they ought not to circumcise their children neither to walk after the customs so this is sort of thing that we would say today just sort of the the modern equivalent to give us a sense of what Paul is facing here where people did they don't know I was in Philadelphia when I saw this massive rally and all kinds of protesters and I just I love this picture of this professional protester but here you have all these people protesting Paul his arrival in in Jerusalem but they've not met Paul they haven't spoken to ball they don't know what Paul is actually teaching they just hear these rumors and you know this these professional protesters here that are being bused in various cities or were being bused into various cities you know they say this is what democracy looks like they were chanting and you know I'm sure if I were to stop them and ask them did you actually vote most of these young people didn't vote they think they felt they didn't have to vote and then when the election didn't go in their their their way now they're on the street protesting saying this is what democracy looks like well what democracy looks like is you cast your vote and then whatever the result is you live with it at least for four years and then you know you have another shot but but they just they don't know Trump they don't understand him they haven't read in detail what he's saying but they just get caught up with the crowd and that's exactly what was happening here in Paul's time they

got caught up with the crowd and so here
it says in verse we were in verse 21
that there they have heard of you so
they're they're informed of you through
rumor and gossip that you teach all the
Jews not some of the Jews all the Jews
which are among the Gentiles to forsake
Moses saying that they shouldn't
circumcise their show
neither should they walk after the
custom this is what the hear that you're
teaching and they're zealous for the law
what is it therefore that the multitude
is going to come together for they will
hear that you are come so so all of the
Jews are going to now gather when they
hear that Paul is in town do therefore
this that we say to you we have four men
which have a vow on them so so this is
what we're there this is what they're
advising Paul to do there are four men
here that have taken at the Nazarite vow
that have this vow on them then take and
purify yourself with them so it looks
like Paul has come to Jerusalem to
purify himself and they're saying you
know what purify yourself with these
other four and be at charges with them
so look after their costs that they may
shave their heads and everyone will know
that those things were of they were
informed concerning you are nothing but
that you yourself also walk orderly and
you keep the law and so remember the
this vow that Paul had taken this
Nazarite vow which it looks like these
men have taken as well that then at the
end of the vow the Nazarite shall shave
the head of his separation at the door
of the tabernacle of the congregation
and shall take the hair of the head of
his separation and put it in the fire
which is under the sacrifice of the
peace offerings so when we go back to

chapter 18 remember that Paul here in chapter 18 after he had stayed there in Ephesus a good while he took his leave of the brethren and sailed from there to Syria and within Priscilla and Aquila having shorn his head in centuries and Korea for he had a vow that was the Nazarite vow and he came to Ephesus and left them there but he himself entered into the synagogue and reasoned with the Jews and when they wanted him to stay longer with them he wouldn't consent but bade them farewell saying I must by all means keep this feast that comes in Jerusalem and I will return again unto you if God

Will's and he sailed from Ephesus so he had this real drive to get to Jerusalem by Pentecost we know that he cut his head his hair but there's no indication that he actually burned the hair and finished the purification process so it looks like perhaps he brought the hair with him to Jerusalem and he's now going to complete the purification process and they're advising him to complete it with these other four that have also taken the bell so then taken purify yourself with them and be it charges with them that they may shave their heads and all may know that those things whereof they were informed concerning you are nothing they're false they're false accusations so paul hasn't forsaken the law he's following the law the Nazarite vow is a voluntary vow so not only is he keeping the law that's obligatory he's also keeping he's going further than that and taking upon himself the voluntary aspects of the law like the Nazarite vow but they'll stead see that you yourself also walk orderly and you keep the law as touching the Gentiles which believe so there are some Gentiles with him and

so regarding the Gentiles that believe we've written and concluded that they observe no such thing so the Gentiles don't have to go into these details with the law save only that they keep themselves from the things offered to idols from blood from strangled and from fornication these four things that's what the council in acts 15 the Jerusalem Council that's what they concluded that was their judgment and then they sent letters to everybody saying those things that concerned oh the law regarding Gentiles coming into Israel and to make sure that they don't do these particular things and the rest they would learn through the weekly Sabbath so Paul took the men so Paul agreed with this judgment and he took them in and the next day purifying himself with them entered into the temple to signify the accomplishment of the days of purification so again the indication here is that he only cut his hair when he was in ephesus and then he brought that hair with him to Jerusalem where he's going to burn it and go through the completion of the purification process with the other four men that also took the fowl until that an offering should be offered for every one of them and when the seven days were almost ended the Jews which were of Asia so these are Jews now that have also come into Jerusalem but they were in Asia and they were aware of Paul's work in Asia that's today modern day Turkey and when they saw him in the temple stirred up all the people and laid hands on him and again this is all these assumptions and his fear and the sort of crowd mentality and the group think everybody's going crazy now and wanting to kill Paul and they cried out

men of Israel help this is the man that teaches all men everywhere against the people and the law and this place Jerusalem and further brought Greeks also into the temple so not only is he going through Asia and destroying the law in Asia he's now in Jerusalem and he's bringing Gentiles to pollute if they bring me bring Gentiles into the temple to pollute the temple I mean this guy has got it all wrong and he is an enemy of anybody who loves Jerusalem and loves the law so he's polluted this holy place for they had seen before with him in the city that is in Ephesus trophy mess and then they saw him in Jerusalem they sought roughness with him and Ephesian whom they supposed that Paul had brought into the temple so it you know Paul hadn't brought him into the temple but they just assumed because they saw him with him with Paul earlier that obviously Paul must have taken him into the city now this trough famous comes up in Paul's letter to Timothy where Paul writes here that at this time only Luke was with him that he's to take mark and bring him with youth Timothy for mark is profitable to me in the ministry so a one time mark was not profitable to him but at this point mark email sees his benefit and ticket cuz he's left and he sent to Ephesus the cloak that he left it true us with Karpis when you come bring that with you and the books but especially the parchment not sure what the differentiation is between the books and the parchments but clearly he's got the Scriptures but we also know that Paul was well read in the Greek literature and the the poetry and the philosophy of the Greek so he's got the books and parchments and he wants Timothy to bring

these he points out that Alexander the
coppersmith did him much evil and the
Lord reward him according to his works
which means that's a real curse on
Alexander of whom you should also be
aware for he has greatly withstood our
words so there's people who opposed what
Paul was doing and then this is really
sad here in verse 16 at my first answer
my first defense when I had to defend
the gospel no man stood with me so Paul
is just explaining to Timothy here that
you know he had the courage to stand
up for the gospel but everybody
abandoned him when he had to defend to
all men force took me I pray God that it
may not be laid to their charge
notwithstanding the Lord stood with me
and strengthen me that by me the
preaching might be fully known and that
all the Gentiles might hear so Paul just
had this drive for the Gentiles to hear
the gospel and I was delivered out of
the mouth of the lion so it was a very
dangerous situation that he was walking
into but he walked into it he preached
the gospel and he's he's six lane 2
Timothy that he was forsaken and the
Lord shall deliver me from every evil
work and will preserve me unto his
heavenly kingdom so that was Paul to
drive I'm going to be in God's kingdom
and I'm going to serve and serve and
teach and preach right up to the end
knowing that God is faithful to whom be
glory forever and ever amen and then
this is the part here we see through
famous of solute precisa Prisca and
Aquila and the household of Annisa on
this diverse Erastus abode at Corinth
but through famous have I left at my lead
some sick so
outside of Ephesus there he's left
trophy miss who was there sexy see that

roughness is his faithful disciple that has continued in the faith but here he was left sick and so Paul was by himself and was hoping that Timothy would join him and Luke do your diligence to come before winter so he wants his cloak before winter really hope that Timothy will come and and he goes on to greet the Brethren so here then they had seen him with a trough amidst the Ephesian and so they just supposed that he brought toughness into the temple and all the city was moved so again this this incredible uproar for the whole city just really just getting involved in a sort of crowd mentality and this hatred of Paul even though they don't they have my Paul that and spoken to him and the people ran together and they took Paul and drew him out of the temple so Paul's in the temple going through the purification process they go in there and they get him and they dragged him out and forth with the doors were shot they want to keep him out and as they went about to kill him so that's what that's what he they was being warned would happen in Jerusalem so this is very very serious he's about to be killed now tidings came unto the chief captain of the band that all Jerusalem was in an uproar the whole city was up in an uproar who immediately took soldiers and centurian so when the soldiers and centurion show up it's serious you don't want to get on the wrong side of Rome so this whole chaos in Jerusalem meant the soldiers and century ins had to come to restore order who immediately took soldiers and Centurions and ran down into this is urgent and when they saw the chief captain and the soldiers they left beating of the left beating of Paul so

so you know this is serious when these guys show up it's serious they want to get arrested they don't wanna get killed themselves so now Paul is spared that would have killed him but he spared now then the chief captain came near and took him and commanded him to be bound with two chains so you can see that he's the culprit he's the source of this commotion

is arresting him now and demanded who he was and what he had done and some cried one thing and some another they're all over the place they don't have any facts but they're accusing him of all kinds among the multitude and when he could not know the certainty for the tumult he commanded him to be carried into the castle so he's gonna sort it out and when he came up the stairs so it was that he was born of the soldiers for the violence of the people so it looks like he was speaking up so badly he had to be carried for the multitude of people followed after crying away with him away with him they want to really want to destroy him and as Paul was to be led into the castle he said unto the chief captain can I have a word with you can I speak to you who said can you speak Greek it was just shocked he just assumed that this man didn't speak the language can you speak Greek aren't you the Egyptian so this Egyptian which before these days made an uproar and led out into the wilderness 4,000 men that were murderers so he just assumed that this was there's some egyptian guy that's guilty of some incredible miscreant the miscreant individual here who is guilty of something serious of causing 4,000 murderers to flee the city and cause a big uproar so this century just assumes that that this this must be

this captain assumes that this must be who this is but he's shocked that Paul can speak Greek but Paul said I'm a man which I'm a Jew of Tarsus a city in Silesia a citizen of no mean city this is an important city and I'm a citizen of this city and I'm begging you allow me to speak to the people and when he had given him license so he allowed him to speak to the people Paul stood on the stairs and beckoned with the hand onto the people and when there was made a great silence and I sort of beckoning with the hand with the authority of the Roman

Upton and so there's now silence and he spoke to them in the Hebrew tongue so this time most Jews would be trilingual they would speak Hebrew they would speak Greek they would speak Aramaic so it just depends on Air America depends on where they are which audience there with that they would with which language they would speak so now in the temple of it speak Hebrew and Paul is now speaking Hebrew men brethren and fathers here you my defense which I now make unto you so he's now going to explain his his position and when they heard that he spoken the Hebrew tongue to them they kept the more silence so they kept solids because he was there with the authority of the the Roman captain but now when he starts to speak in Hebrew they keep even more silent he says I am verily a man which I'm a Jew born in Tarsus a city in Cilicia yet brought up in this city at the feet of Gamaliel so this is huge credibility so he's like saying I went to the best school and so when they hear this this is very impressive that he was taught at the feet of Gamaliel and that he was brought up in Jerusalem so even though he was

born in Tarsus he was raised in Jerusalem and he was taught specifically at the feet of Gamaliel and taught according to the perfect manner of the law of the fathers and they would understand that this is what that means if he was taught by Gamaliel then he was taught according to the specifics in the detail in the law and I was zealous toward God as you all are this day so I was the same as you and I persecuted this way of Christianity unto the death like I was serious i saw this as just an egregious error and i had no tolerance for it and i persecuted this way into the death binding and delivering into prisons both men and women as also the high priest does bear me witness and all the estate of the elders from whom i also received letters unto the Brethren and went to Damascus to bring them which were bound unto Jerusalem for to be punished and it came to pass that as I made my journey and I was come near to Damascus around noon suddenly there Sean from heaven a great light round about me so this is the when he was struck down from Damascus and so he this is when he's struck down on the road to Damascus and he says here at noon this bright light and he fell to the ground and he heard a voice saying Saul Saul why do you persecute me and I answered who are you lord and he said unto me I am Jesus of Nassau he's explains him this is what happened to me so I was just like you and then I'm on my way to persecute these people and arrest them and even kill them and then I was struck down and I saw this leiden and I said you know who are you and I'm Jesus of Nazareth whom you're persecuting and they that were with me saw indeed the light but were afraid but they heard not the voice

of him that spoke to me and I said what shall i do Lord and the Lord said to me arise and go into Damascus and there it shall be told you of all the things which are appointed for you to do and when I could not see for the glory of that light as bright bright light it blinded him being led by the hand of them that were with me I came into Damascus and one Ananias a devout man according to the law having a good report of all the Jews which dwelt there came unto me and stood and said unto me brother Saul receive your sight and the same hour I looked upon him and he said the god of Our Fathers has chosen you that you should know his will and see that just one so so Paul is now going to see Christ and should hear the voice of his mouth for you shall be his witness unto all men of what you have seen and heard and now why wait here arise and be baptized and wash away your sins calling on the name of the Lord and it shall come to pass that when I was coming into Jerusalem even while I prayed in the temple I was in a trance and I saw him saying unto me hurry hurry and get out of Jerusalem for they will not receive your testimony concerning me so you're in Jerusalem run for your life because they're not going to receive your testimony and Paul says no no o Lord you don't understand you don't understand Lord they know that I imprisoned and beat in every synagogue then that believed on you and when the blood of the martyrs Stephen was shed I also a standing by consenting on to his death they know this and i kept the raiment of them that slew him so I was actually willing to look after their clothing so that they could be free enough to stone him and then I gave them back their

clothing and saluted them and approved of the this action and everybody knows this so so I think that I'm the best person to take the testimony of you as Messiah to these people and he said unto me you better listen get out of here get out of Jerusalem the park that's really nice Paul that you have this idea of how you think you can relate to these people but you better run leave hurry for I will send you far hence unto the Gentiles and they gave him audience so they were listening to this whole story and found it fascinating until this word Gentiles and when they heard this word then they lifted up their voices and said away with such a fellow from the earth for it is not fit that he should live so somehow this word Gentiles and taking the gospel or taking the law the torah to the goth to the Gentiles they were happy listening to all of this and knowing that they're the chosen people and and they're listening carefully and silently until he says this and this is very very unfortunate because the you know to the Gentiles Gentile should not be a derogatory turn Gentiles just means other nations so so there's the chosen nation and then there's the other nations that the chosen nation should serve the chosen nation is chosen to be a nation of priests to the other nations to help them or to facilitate their relationship with God but instead because of human nature the Jews got to believe that they are somehow really really special and everyone else is dirt and you see this kind of thinking not only in Judaism we see it in Christianity where you know we believe that hey we're believers where the first fruits and that's one thing but it's one

thing to believe and understand that where the first fruits and we're being we are now that same nation of Israel that is set aside and holy to be priests and to facilitate the relationship of the other nations and the other peoples with god that's that's why we're first fruit

42 in service to others but somehow that escapes us and you see churches rise up who who know the truth who know the gospel but instead of being humble and realizing while we're here to serve the world the world becomes a derogatory term and where are the special people and the world you know the we just despise them because we're the special ones and some some churches are so bad that if you're not in their particular organization you're nothing there are the special ones and everybody else is filthy and this is just not this doesn't come from God and we see the same kind of thinking in Islam same thing with their term kafir which is you know sit they sort of take the attitude similar to the Jews with the Gentiles where if you're a Muslim you're wonderful you're the best of peoples but if you're a non-muslim your kafir you're the filth of the earth and all of this type of thinking whether it's in Judaism if it's in Islam if it's in Christianity or anywhere where we feel superior to others this doesn't come from God and so this thinking that the Jews had it doesn't come from God in fact when Christ came if you if you look here in Luke to when Simeon through the Holy Spirit was told that he would see the Messiah before he dies he says here my eyes have seen your salvation which was the promise of the Holy Spirit for him that he would see the Messiah which you

have prepared before the face of all people so the Messiah is for all people a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of your people Israel so the Messiah is the glory of Israel but he's a light to lighten the Gentiles and that is actually a quote from Isaiah which again the Jews have these scriptures and they should have seen this behold my servant whom I uphold my elect in whom my soul delights I have put my spirit upon him he shall bring forth judgment to the Gentiles he shall not cry nor lift up nor cause his voice to be heard in the streets a bruise read shall he not break and the smoking flax shall

not quench he shall bring forth judgment unto truth he shall not fail nor be discouraged till he have said judgment in the earth and the aisle shall wait for his law so here this it says very clear that he shall bring judgment to the Gentiles and he's a light to the Gentiles a light to lighten the Gentiles so Paul in Damascus he's seeing this bright light because this is the light for the Gentiles and Paul understood this he came to understand that his ministry now was not to Jews specifically or exclusively but to the Gentile world and this was the light to the Gentiles and so when they hear this word Gentiles they absolutely freak out and in continuing in Isaiah thus says the so this has God the Lord that he created the heavens and stretch them out and he spread forth the earth and that which comes out of it he that gives breath unto the people upon it and spirit to them that walk therein I the LORD have called you in righteousness and will hold your hand and will keep you and give you for a covenant of the

people for a light of the Gentiles so when they hear this word Gentiles instead of thinking of this scripture to say this is the he's explaining this light this is the light to the Gentiles instead they think know where the special people we don't want to share this with the Gentiles and so now they freak out when they hear this word Gentiles and they gave him audience unto this word and then lifted up their voices and said away with such a fellow from the earth for it is not fit that he should live just because he's taken the law to the Gentiles and as they cried out and cast off their clothes and threw dust in the air so they're just absolutely losing it the chief captain commanded him to be brought into the castle and instructed that he should be examined by scourging so this is where they they have this nodded thread and they whip you and tear your skin that's what happened to Christ extremely painful that he might know why they cried so against so he knows it's not the Egyptian he knows he's not the Egyptian anymore doesn't know who he is what he's done but the whole of Jerusalem is in an uproar over him so okay let's examine him by scourging and as they bound him with thongs Paul said unto the Centurion that stood by excuse me it's really funny is it lawful for you to scourge a man that is a Roman and uncondemned cordial Roman that has not been condemned for anything that's innocent and then is a Roman citizen when the Centurion heard that basically panicked so when the Centurion heard that where am I now he says in verse 27 so he sorry verse 26 he told the chief captain saying be careful what you do this man

is Roman then the chief captain came and said to him tell me are you a Roman he said yes the chief captain answered with a great sum obtained I this freedom so I basically took my whole life savings to become a Roman citizen I had to buy this and Paul said well i was born free i was born a Roman citizen so you bought your Roman citizen I was born a Roman citizen then straight away they depart they left him alone which should have examined him so they were supposed to scorch him they just drop everything and leave this man alone he's a Roman citizen and the chief captain also was terrified after he knew that he was a Roman because he had bound him so he's already done that and this is going to go to his superiors and you don't mess with Roman citizens anybody else is fine but you don't touch Roman citizens and so he's already mistreated this Roman citizen the next day because he would have known the certainty of why he was accused of the Jews he released him from his bed and commanded the chief priests and all their counsel to appear and brought Paul down and set him before them and so that ends at Acts chapter 21 and 22 and what we're going to see now is in Jerusalem he's now going to be taken to Rome and well and then this is really the whole drive that Luke has been writing as to how Paul comes to Rome and now he's going to be on trial in Rome so we're going to see here now he thought he was going to perish in Jerusalem and he was prepared to perish in Jerusalem but in fact God now has other plans and I see it's a 815 no I think I'll stop here and we'll we'll pick up the story next week with extra Acts chapter 23 and for those of you on the chat I look forward to speaking to you on the chat for those of

you not on the chat we look forward to
seeing you again next week when we cover
Acts chapter 23 god bless good night and
remember jesus is lord