

## **“Paul Gives A Defense Before The Governor!”**

**Acts 24:10-21**

Then **Paul**, after the **Governor** had nodded to **Him** to speak, answered: “Inasmuch as **I** know that **You** (**Marcus Antonius Felix**) have been for many years a ‘(**Roman**) **Judge of this Nation**’, **I** do the more cheerfully answer for **Myself**, because **You** may ascertain that it is no more than Twelve Days (Last Three Days of the Twelve, **I** Was Kept in the **Antonia Fortress Barracks**), <sup>1</sup> Since **I** Went Up to **Jerusalem** to Worship. And **They** Neither Found Me (**Paul**) <sup>2</sup> in the **Temple** **Disputing with Anyone** <sup>2a</sup> Nor Inciting the Crowd, <sup>2b</sup> either in the **Synagogues** or in the **City**. Nor Can They Prove the Things of Which **They** Now Accuse Me. But this **I** (**Paul**) Confess to You (**Felix**), that According to the ‘Way’ Which **They** Call (**Judge**) a **Sect**, <sup>2c</sup> So, **I** Worship the **God of My Fathers**, **Believing** ‘**All Things**’ Which are **Written in the Law** and in the **Prophets**. <sup>2d</sup> **I** Have **Hope** in **God**, Which **They** Themselves Also Accept, That There Will Be A ‘**Resurrection of the Dead**’, Both of the ‘**Just** and the **Unjust**’. This Being So (**An Established Fact**), ‘**I** (**Paul**) Myself Always Strive To Have A **Conscience Without Offense** Toward **God** and **Men**.’ Now After Many Years (Almost Five), **I** Came to Bring Alms and Offerings to **My Nation**, in the Midst of Which **Some Jews from Asia** Found **Me** (**Paul**) Purified in the Temple, Neither With a Mob <sup>2a</sup> Nor With Tumult. <sup>2d</sup> They Ought To Have Been Here Before You (**Governor**) To Object If They Had Anything Against Me. <sup>2</sup> Or Else Let Those Who Are Here Themselves (**Inner Circle of the Sanhedrin**) Say If They Found Any Wrongdoing In Me <sup>2a / 2b</sup> While **I** Stood Before The **Council** (of the **Sanhedrin**), Unless It Is For This One Statement Which I (**Paul**) Cried Out (**Testified To**), Standing Among Them, ‘Concerning the **Resurrection of the Dead**’ **I** Am Being **Judged By You** (**Governor**) **This Day!**” <sup>2c</sup> **Acts 24:10-21 (NKJV)**

**Q**

**“How Many Days Has It Been Since The Time Of Paul’s Arrival In Jerusalem To His Trial Before The Roman Governor Felix In Caesarea Philippi?”**

**A**

**19 Days**

**RECALL**

**Day 1**

**Paul Arrived In Jerusalem At The House of Mnason of Cyprus**

**Acts 21:15-17**

**Day 2**

**Paul Meets With The Council of the Jerusalem Christian Church**

**Acts 21:18-25**

**Day 3 – Day 9**

**Paul Takes Four Other Men & Declares His Intention**

**To Be Purified & Take A Vow For Seven Days**

**Acts 21:26**

**Day 10 – Day 12**

**Paul Is Kept In The Barracks of the Antonia Fortress**

**Acts 21:22-30 & 23:1-30**

**Day 13 – Day 14**

**Paul Is Taken On A Forced Roman Army March To Felix The Roman Governor In Caesarea Philippi**

**Acts 23:31-33**

**Day 15 – Day 19**

**Paul Is Kept In Herod’s Praetorium For Five Days Awaiting Trial Before The Roman Governor & The Inner Circle of the Sanhedrin Council**

**Acts 23:34-35**

## RECALL

The **Strategy** of the **Sanhedrin Council's Accusations**  
& The **Debate Tactics** Used By **Their Orator Tertullus**

- 1) The Use Of **Three Positive** & **Flattering Compliments** Recognizing The Ultimate Authority Of **Marcus Antonius Felix**, The **Roman Governor**
- 2) Followed By Naming **Three Negative Anarchistic, Insurrectionist, & Terrorist Pejoratives** Used To Frame The Defendant's Character - **Paul of Tarsus**
- 3) Followed By The Use Of **Three Positive Attempts To Lawfully Control The Situation** By The **Jewish Authorities** Using Only **Jewish Law** ;  
Without Any **Roman Interference** - All The While **Recognizing Rome's Authority**
- 4) Followed By **Unanimous Agreement By All Authorities**  
Testifying To The **"Supposed Truth"** To Seal The Fate of **Your Opposition** - **Paul of Tarsus**

## NOW

Let's Take A Look At **Paul's** Defense / Debate Strategy

**Paul** Focuses On A **Succinct Jewish: Historical, Lawful, & Theological**  
Account Of The Actual Events In A **Strict Chronological Order of Events**

Then **Paul**, after the **Governor** had nodded to **Him** to speak, answered: *"Inasmuch as I know that **You** (**Marcus Antonius Felix**) have been for many years a '(Roman) Judge of this Nation', I do the more cheerfully answer for **Myself**, because **You** may ascertain that it is no more than Twelve Days (Last Three Days of the Twelve, I Was Kept in the **Antonia Fortress Barracks**), <sup>1</sup> Since I Went Up to **Jerusalem** to Worship."*

Acts 24:10-11

## RECALL

The **Sanhedrin Council's Four Accusations**

**Orator Tertullus**, *"This **Man** (**Paul**) <sup>2</sup> Is: a **Plague**, <sup>2a</sup> a **Creator of Dissension** among **All the Jews** throughout the World, <sup>2b</sup> and a **Ringleader** of the **Sect of the Nazarenes**."* <sup>2c</sup> *"He (**Paul**) <sup>2</sup> even tried to **Profane the Temple**,* <sup>2d</sup>

Acts 24:25-26a

**Paul's Defense / Debate Strategy** Focuses On **Their Lack of Evidence** For Each **Accusation**  
*"And **They Neither Found Me** (**Paul**) <sup>2</sup> in the **Temple Disputing with Anyone** <sup>2a</sup> **Nor Inciting the Crowd**, <sup>2d</sup> either in the **Synagogues** or in the **City**. **Nor Can They Prove the Things** of Which **They Now Accuse Me**. But this I (**Paul**) <sup>2</sup> **Confess to You** (**Felix**), that **According to the 'Way'** Which **They Call** (**Judge**) a **Sect**. <sup>2c</sup> So, I **Worship** the **God of My Fathers**, **Believing** 'All Things' Which are **Written in the Law and in the Prophets**."<sup>2d</sup>*

Acts 24:12-14

**Paul's Defense / Debate Strategy** Focuses Next On What **They** As The **Religious Authorities**  
Have Conveniently Left Out Of **Their "Official Accusations"** – **Their Own Beliefs & Doctrines**  
**Which Are In Complete Agreement With Paul's Testified To Beliefs & Doctrines**

**'Concerning The Resurrection From The Dead'**

*"I Have **Hope** in **God**, Which **They Themselves Also Accept**, That There Will Be A '**Resurrection of the Dead**', Both of the '**Just and the Unjust**'. This Being So (An Established Fact), 'I (**Paul**) **Myself** Always Strive To Have A **Conscience Without Offense** Toward **God and Men**.'" <sup>2d</sup>*

Acts 24:15-16

**Paul's Defense / Debate Strategy** Now Focuses

On Putting **The Inner Circle** of the **Sanhedrin's Council Official Accusations**

Within The Actual Events As They Unfolded In A **Strict Chronological Order of Events**

*"Now After Many Years (Almost Five), I Came to **Bring Alms and Offerings** to **My Nation**, in the Midst of Which **Some Jews from Asia Found Me** (**Paul**) **Purified** in the **Temple**, **Neither With a Mob** <sup>2a</sup> **Nor With Tumult**."<sup>2d</sup>*

Acts 24:17-18

**Paul's Defense / Debate Strategy** Now Focuses On Making **Those Responsible**  
For **His Captivity & Trial**, To Try To **Prove Any** Of **Their Accusations**

- 1) **“They (Jews from Asia) Ought To Have Been Here Before You (Governor) To Object If They Had Anything Against Me.”** <sup>2a / 2d</sup> Acts 24:19
- 2) **“Or Else Let Those Who Are Here Themselves (Inner Circle of the Sanhedrin) Say If They Found Any Wrongdoing In Me <sup>2a / 2b</sup> While I Stood Before Their Council.”** Acts 24:20

**Paul’s Defense / Debate Strategy Focuses Finally On The Main Point Of Contention Between Judaism & The Whole World Vs. Christianity’s Central Claim:**

**‘The Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the Dead!’**

- 3) **“Unless It Is For This One Statement Which I (Paul) <sup>2</sup> Cried Out (Testified To), Standing Among Them, ‘Concerning the Resurrection of the Dead’ I Am Being Judged By You (Governor) This Day!”** <sup>2c</sup> Acts 24:21

**Paul’s New Focused Mindset**

**“Paul Now Knows That His Jewish Brothers & Religious Authorities, Hearts Are Completely Hardened To The Message of the Gospel of Jesus Christ!**

**So, Paul Plans His Future Defense / Debate Strategies**

**In Order To Always Set Up An Opportunity, To Proclaim The Gospel’s Message of Forgiveness & Grace; To The Gentile Roman Officials, & All The People of the World Instead!**

**Our New Focused Mindset**

**“Let Us As God’s Redeemed & Saved People, Purposefully Seek & Set Up Opportunities To Proclaim The Life Saving Message of Our Lord’s Gospel; Even When We Are Wrongly Accused, Beaten, Intimidated, Ridiculed, Or Even Imprisoned One Day, For Our Faith In HIM!”**