

## Paul Before the Council; Conspiracy Prompts His Move to Caesarea

### Acts 23

Group <sup>1</sup>	C	V	Description
Paul before the Council	23	1-5	Paul is brought before the Council Paul chastises Ananias for having him struck w/o knowing he is the high priest
		6-10	Paul's speech causes a rousing debate and is returned to the barracks
		11	That night Paul is visited by the Lord and told about going to Rome
A Conspiracy to Kill Paul		12-15	The conspiracy to kill Paul is discovered
		16-22	The conspiracy is reported by Paul's nephew to the commander
		23-25	Paul is moved to Caesarea
Paul Moved to Caesarea		26-30	The message to the governor, Felix, in Caesarea <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Address - v. 26</li><li>• Reasons for Paul being arrested and sent to Caesarea - v.27-29</li><li>• The plot to kill Paul - v. 30</li></ul>
		31-35	The account of the trip to Caesarea

At the end of the last chapter, Paul was held over by the Roman centurion in order to appear before the Jewish Council, or Sanhedrin, to hear complaints against him and for him to give his defense. Paul's speech causes a rousing debate among the Jews which eventually resulted being returned to the barracks once again. During the night he is visited by the Lord and is told that he would be his witness in Rome as well.

The following day, some of the Jews had bound themselves under oath to neither eat or drink until Paul was killed. They then conspired with members of the Council to have Paul brought in again to be questioned and along the way they would kill him.

The plot is discovered by one of Paul's nephews, who in turn tells Paul, who then instructs him to tell the commander of the plot. The commander then dispatched two centurions and their soldiers that night to escort Paul to Felix, the governor, in Caesarea, some 70 miles to the northwest on the coast of the Mediterranean Sea. Upon receiving the letter sent by Claudius Lysias, the commander, Felix consented to hear Paul's case when his accusers arrived.

In times of persecution, we are to be ever vigilant of possible threats. That doesn't mean we should be fear-struck and do nothing, but merely be aware that there are some who will seek to harm Christians among those who would seek to stifle any Christian witness in their culture.

**Key Words:** New Testament, Gospels, Acts, Paul, Sanhedrin, Caesarea



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### Bibliography

<sup>1</sup> (NASB) "Group" column from the headings in the NASB text.

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*(NASB) New American Standard Bible*. La Habra, CA: The Lockman Foundation, 1995. Print.