Lesson 19

December 6, 2020 • Acts 21:1–39

1. When they arrived in Caesarea, Paul and his traveling companions stayed with "Philip the evangelist" (21:8). Who was Philip, and how long had he apparently been in Caesarea?

2. The disciples in Tyre "told Paul through the Spirit not to go up to Jerusalem" (21:4b). Agabus prophesied to Paul that the Jews in Jerusalem would "deliver him into the hands of the Gentiles" (21:11b), which agreed with similar warnings the Holy Spirit had been giving Paul "in every city" (20:23) since he had begun making his way from Macedonia. Was Paul being stubbornly disobedient to the Holy Spirit by continuing undeterred to Jerusalem? Why or why not?

3. What ultimately was the attitude of Paul's companions toward his determination to go to Jerusalem?

4. When Paul arrived in Jerusalem, how did the brethren receive him and his report of his ministry?

5. **Research Question** Paul had been hoping to reach Jerusalem by Pentecost (20:16). What can we conclude about whether he made it or not?

6. What rumors had the (unbelieving) Jews been circulating about what Paul had been teaching?

7. What did James and the elders recommend that Paul do to combat those rumors and put the minds of Jewish believers at ease?

8. **Research Question** Can we reach any firm conclusions about the nature of the vow these four men had taken?

9. Upon what basis did the Jews from Asia conclude that Paul simply must have defiled the temple by binging Gentiles into it?

10. Why and to what extent did the commander of the garrison have to come to Paul's aid?

11. Why would the commander leap to the conclusion that Paul was the Egyptian leader of some band of assassins?

12. How did Paul convince the commander to let him address the crowd?