



11am Bible Study: Pastor Will Lloyd, IV, M.T.S.

Topic: Journey To Rome - Complete God's Will
Book Theme: Growth Of The Church
Chapters: Acts 23-28 **Nov. 1st, 2023**

Central Text: Acts 28:20, NKJV, 20 For this reason therefore **I have called for you**, to see you and speak with you, *because for the hope of Israel **I am bound with this chain.***"

1. Hard Times Are Opportunities To Testify Of God's Sustaining Power - Acts 23:23 - Acts 24

Question For Dialogue: When we feel the sustaining power of Jesus in the midst of our hard times, we have an opportunity to give God glory if we're willing to testify of His "enduring" power. **What was the last difficult season you went through that the sustaining power of Jesus kept you strong and carried you through?**

2. We Should Look For Divine Encounters And Witness Faith In Jesus - Acts 25 - 26

Question for Dialogue: Nothing in our life is happenstance, so people we encounter are divine opportunities for us to witness faith in Jesus. **What are some things we can do to refuse to see encounters with people as coincidences, and instead see them as divine encounters to witness our faith in Jesus?**

3. Warnings People Close To Us Ignore Can Impact Us As Well - Acts 27

Question for Dialogue: Suffering from someone else's mistake is a hurtful experience. **What are some godly responses during and after suffering the consequences of someone else's bad choice?**

4. God Has A Will For Our Lives, So We Don't Have Time To Waste, Because There's Work To Do - Acts 28

Question for Dialogue: We should, through our witness of faith in Jesus, build up God's kingdom, instead of primarily focusing on building up our kingdom/lives. God can take care of all our needs, so we can trust Him to provide for us. **With God looking out for us, which relieves us of the need to look out for ourselves, what are some healthy practices to make sure we're proactively living out God's will for our lives?**

Scriptures for Lesson Intro

Luke 24:44-48 - Jesus to his disciples

Moses - Gen. 3:15 - Protoevangelium - first gospel

Moses - Deut. 18:15 & 18 - a collection of Prophets, culminating in Jesus

Moses - Gen. 49:9-10 - Jacob blesses Judah prophetically points to Jesus

Prophets - Isaiah 49:6 - light to gentiles, salvation to ends of the earth

Prophets - Isaiah 53:4-6, 10-11 - suffering messiah

Psalms - Psalm 16:10 - will not allow your Holy One to see Corruption, resurrection identifier

- Acts 2:22-32 - Peter testifies that Jesus is the Holy One

Psalms - Psalm 22: entire Psalm but let's look at v.1,15,18 - more suffering and occurrences

John 3:13-17 - Jesus to Nicodemus a Pharisee who was seeking to connect the dots (and who also apparently becomes a believer since he asks for Jesus' body and buries him with Joseph of Arimathea, a believer as well).

Notice Jesus foreshadows the crucifixion v. 14 as Moses Lifted up the serpent Num 21:8-9

Note from Acts 24

God Will Even Strengthen Us To Testify In The Presence Of Our Enemies - Notes on Drusilla - Felix's Wife
Drusilla, who was his 3rd wife and who he forcefully took from her husband. She was Jewish and was the great-granddaughter of Herod the Great, who tried to kill Jesus as a baby when he ordered all male babies 2 years and younger put to death. She was the great-niece of Herod who killed John the Baptist. Her father was the man who had James, one of the 12 disciples, put to death (Acts 12:1,2). Her heritage and lineage was evil.