

PAUL AND HIS CITIZENSHIP
Acts 22:24-30

INTRODUCTION:

- A. Paul had been arrested in the temple
 - 1) Paul had been seen by Asians
 - 2) He was bound with two chains

- B. Paul asked to address the mob
 - 1) "May I speak unto thee?"
 - 2) "Suffer me to speak unto the people"

- C. Paul explained his conversion
 - 1) "I persecuted this way unto death"
 - 2) He saw and heard Jesus on the Damascus road. He responded to his question.
 - 3) "I will send thee far hence unto the Gentiles"
 - 4) This created a great furor vs. 23
[Claudius Lysias Chief Captain]

- I. Paul was Taken to the Barracks for the Ultimate in Interrogation vs. 24
 - A. He was brought to the "castle"
 - 1) "examined" = anetazo = "to enquire strictly"
 - 2) "scourge" = mastx = "a whip"
 - 3) The chief captain was anxious to know the truth

 - B. Paul was bound with thongs vs. 25
 - 1) "they bound him with thongs"
 - 2) Paul questioned the centurion
 - 3) This was wrong because Paul was a citizen of Rome and he had not had a trial.

- II. The Power of Citizenship vs. 26-27
 - A. The Centurion told the Chief Captain
 - 1) "take heed what thou doest"
 - 2) "for this man is a Roman"

 - B. Paul plainly states his position
 - 1) "art thou a Roman?"
 - 2) "He said, yea"

- III. How Paul Became a Citizen vs. 28
 - A. The chief captain had purchased his
 - 1) "with a great sum obtained I this freedom"
 - 2) "freedom" = politeia = "the relation in which a citizen stands to the state, the condition or rights of a citizen"

- B. Paul was born a citizen
 - 1) "But I was free born"
 - 2) Tarsus was not a colonia
 - 3) One of his ancestors obtained it

IV. The Chief Captain's Response vs. 29-30

- A. They immediately released him
 - 1) He was not tortured
 - 2) The captain is now afraid

- B. They sought more information vs. 30
 - 1) Why were the Jews so upset?
 - 2) Paul appears before the council

V. What Are Our Rights Under Law?

- A. We are "born-free"
 - 1) This was bought at a great price
 - 2) The highest cost, blood!

B. THE BILL OF RIGHTS (ARTICLES I-X)

ARTICLE I

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

ARTICLE II

A well regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall no be infringed.

ARTICLE III

No soldier shall, in time of peace be quartered in any house, without the consent of the owner, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

ARTICLE IV

The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

ARTICLE V

No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a Grand Jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the militia, when in actual service in time of war or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offence to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.

ARTICLE VI

In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the state and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the Assistance of Counsel for his defense.

ARTICLE VII

In suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved, and no fact tried by a jury, shall be otherwise re-examined in any Court of the United States, than according to the rules of the common law.

ARTICLE VIII

Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.

ARTICLE IX

The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.

ARTICLE X

The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the states, are reserved to the states respectively, or to the people.

