

IV. God's Providential Protection vs. 23-25

- A. The action of a soldier
 - 1) He let the young man depart
 - 2) He pledged him to secrecy
- B. The escort is gathered
 - 1) Two hundred soldiers
 - 2) Seventy cavalry men
 - 3) Two hundred spearmen
- C. Paul is provided a horse to ride
 - 1) "Provide them beasts"
 - 2) "bring him safe unto Felix"
- D. This was no thief in the night exit. No letting down of a basket. It was a grand exit, fitting of nobility.

V. A Letter to the Governor vs. 25-30

- A. This man was almost killed
 - 1) I rescued him with an army
 - 2) He is a Roman
- B. He was questioned
 - 1) I set him before the council
 - 2) I have not yet understood their charges
 - 3) His crimes were not worthy of death
- C. I rescued him from a plot
 - 1) I have sent him to thee
 - 2) "His accusers will follow and will make their accusations to thee"

VI. Paul Delivered to Felix vs. 31-35

- A. The palace of Felix is at Caesarea, about 60 miles from Jerusalem.
 - 1) He was first taken to Antipatris, a city 35 miles from Jerusalem and 26 miles further to Caesarea.
 - 2) Paul and the letter were delivered to the governor
 - 3) The governor checks his jurisdiction in the matter
- B. A court date will be set later
 - 1) When your accusers arrive
 - 2) He was kept in Herod's judgment hall

PAUL AND THE PROVIDENCE OF GOD
Acts 23:12-35

INTRODUCTION:

- A. Jesus had told Paul that he must testify of him in Rome also.
 - 1) The Lord must protect Paul
 - 2) He must get Paul to Rome
- B. Paul was aware of God's ways
 - 1) Romans 8:28
 - 2) Providence may be an army officer or a nameless nephew, yet God works.

I. The Plot to Kill Paul vs. 12-13

- A. Forty Jews swore to kill him
 - 1) "banded" = poieo = "to make" + sustrophe = "a rolling up together, hence, a dense mass"
 - 2) "an oath" = anathematizo = "to declare one's self to be devoted to destruction"
 - 3) They would not, "eat nor drink"
- B. They had religious sanction vs. 14-15
 - 1) They told the council vs. 14
 - 2) They need their co-operation vs. 15

II. A Nameless Nephew vs. 16

- A. He heard of the plot
 - 1) "he heard of their lying in wait"
- B. He went and told Paul
 - 1) "he told Paul"

III. A Faithful Army Officer vs. 17-22

- A. Paul called a centurion vs. 17
 - 1) He listened to Paul
 - 2) He granted Paul's request
- B. An attentive officer vs. 18-19
 - 1) What is it thou hast to tell me?
 - 2) This was done in private
- C. The plot was unveiled vs. 20-21
 - 1) The Jews will make a request
 - 2) Do not yield unto them
 - 3) They expect you to agree