

# Survey of Acts - 12 (Acts 26-28)

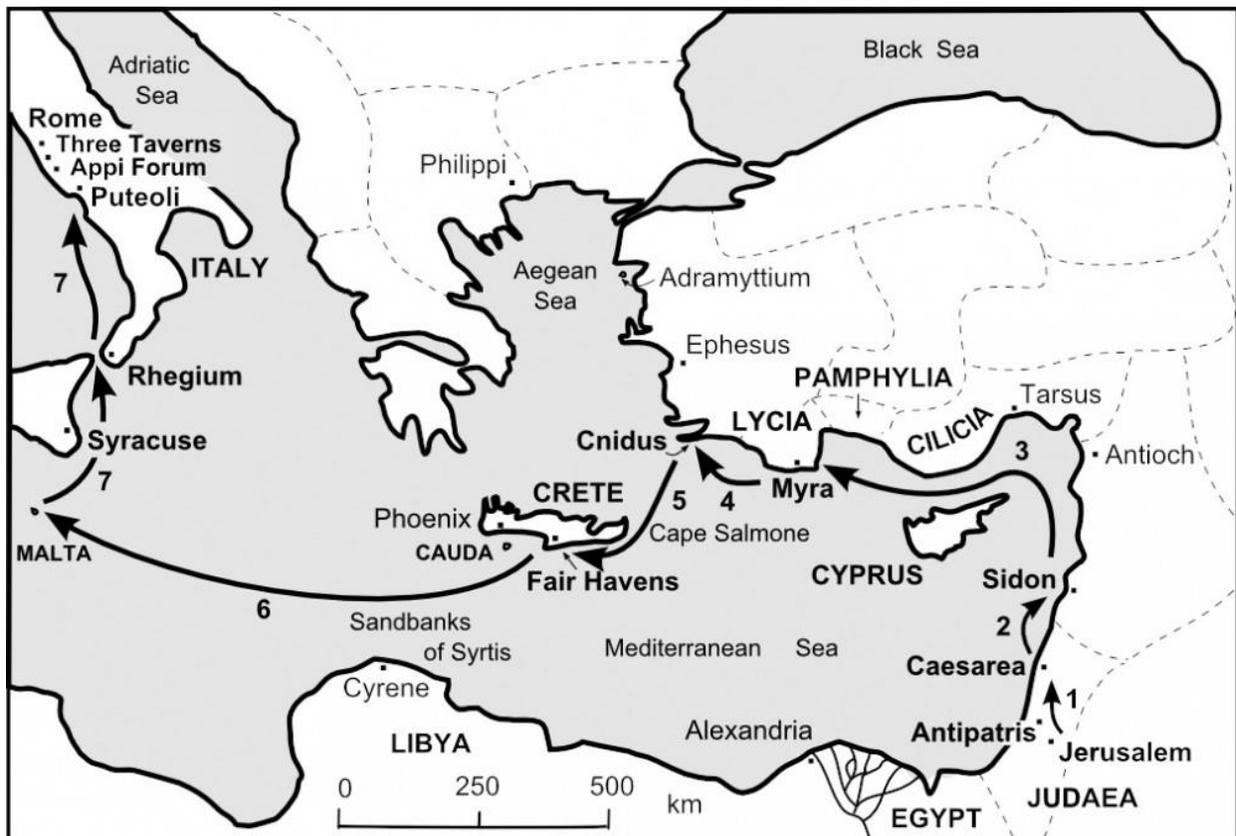
## Paul Before Agrippa, Journey to Rome

### INTRODUCTION

After two years in custody Festus the governor who replaced Felix tried to send Paul back to Jerusalem for trial causing Paul's appeal to Caesar for judgment. Before being sent to Rome, Paul had the opportunity to make his defense to King Agrippa (Herod Agrippa II) and his sister Bernice. Agrippa acknowledged that Paul was innocent of all charges, but his appeal to Caesar required that he go to Rome. After a dangerous sea voyage, Paul arrived in Rome and spent two years "preaching the kingdom of God and teaching concerning the Lord Jesus Christ with all openness, unhindered."

The book of Acts closes without any resolution to Paul's appeal to Caesar.

**Map:** Paul's journey to Rome



Source: <http://www.thebiblejourney.org/>

**Paul's five defenses** (opportunities to share the Gospel message):

1. Before the Jewish mob (Acts 22:1-22)
2. Before the Sanhedrin (Acts 23:1-10)
3. Before Felix (Acts 24:1-21)
4. Before Festus (Acts 25:6-12)
5. Before Agrippa (26:1-29)

**Euraquilo:** On the journey to Rome, Paul and his companions are caught in wind called "euraquilo." This is a transliteration from the Greek. The ISBE states that "[t]he precise name is doubtful, but "the Euraquilo" is more easily explained as a compound of Greek euros, "east wind," and Latin aquilo, "northeast wind," hence, euraquilo, "east northeast wind." Some suggest that it is a variant of another Greek word meaning a "wind causing broad waves" (Thayer). Both understandings give a good description of the storm Paul faced.

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### QUESTIONS

#### 1. Paul before Agrippa (Acts 26:1-32)

- 1.1 Why did Paul consider himself fortunate to give his defense before Agrippa (Acts 26:1-3)?
- 1.2 Was Paul well known by the Jews before his conversion (Acts 6:4-6)?
- 1.3 Give the major idea of each of the following five sections in Paul's defense:
  1. Acts 26:4-8
  2. Acts 26:9-11
  3. Acts 26:12-19
  4. Acts 26:20
  5. Acts 26:21-23
- 1.4 Compare the following passages:
  - (1) Acts 26:6, "*standing trial for the hope of the promise made by God to our fathers.*"
  - (2) Acts 23:6, "*am on trial for the hope and resurrection of the dead.*"
  - (3) Acts 13:32-39, "*we preach to you the good news of the promise made to the fathers.*"Is Paul speaking about the same thing in each passage?
- 1.5 Describe how Paul persecuted the saints (Acts 26:9-11).
- 1.6 Is there any indication in Acts 26:7 that Paul thought the Jews weren't sincere?
- 1.7 When Paul was persecuting the Christians, who was he really persecuting (Acts 26:14-15)?
- 1.8 Read Gal 1:11-18. How does this passage help us understand Acts 26:16?
- 1.9 What are two arguments Paul uses in his defense after Festus calls him mad (insane) (Acts 26:24-27)?
  - 1.
  - 2.
- 1.10 What is Paul's great desire (Acts 26:29)?

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## **2. Paul's journey (Acts 27:1-28:10)**

- 2.1 What was the name of the Centurion in charge of Paul's journey (Acts 27:1)?
  
- 2.2 How do we know Luke accompanied Paul on this journey?
  
- 2.3 Give the name and a brief sketch of the man who accompanied Paul on the ship (Acts 27:2; 19:29; 20:4; Col 4:10; Philemon 1:24).
  - 1.
  - 2.
  
- 2.4 List all the stops the ship made between Caesarea and Fair Havens (Acts 27:2-8)?
  
- 2.5 What does, "*the fast was already over,*" in Acts 27:9 imply?
  
- 2.6 Given the circumstances in Acts 27:10-13, would you have made the same decision the centurion did? (Locate Fair Haven and Phoenix on the Island of Crete to help)
  
- 2.7 List three things the sailors did to save their ship during the storm (Acts 27:14-19).
  - 1.
  - 2.
  - 3.
  
- 2.8 List three things the angel of God promised Paul (Acts 27:22-26).
  - 1.
  - 2.
  - 3.
  
- 2.9 What island did the ship come to (Acts 28:1)?
  
- 2.10 What two miracles are mentioned in Acts 28:3-8?
  - 1.
  - 2.

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### **3. Paul in Rome (Acts 28:11-31)**

- 3.1 List the stops on the way to Rome after the shipwreck (Acts 28:11-13).
- 3.2 Where did the brethren meet Paul on the way to Rome (Acts 28:14-15)?
- 3.3 What special privilege did Paul get in Rome (Acts 28:16)?
- 3.4 List four major points in Paul's meeting with the Jews in Rome.
  - 1.
  - 2.
  - 3.
  - 4.
- 3.5 Thought question: Given how much the Jews in Jerusalem despised Paul, is it odd that the Jews in Rome had not been contacted (Acts 28:11)?
- 3.6 What can we infer from Acts 28:22?
- 3.7 What was the response of the Jews in Rome to Paul's preaching (Acts 28:22-28)?
- 3.8 How long does Luke say Paul stayed in Rome (Acts 28:30)?
- 3.9 What was it like for Paul in Rome (Acts 28:30-31)?
- 3.10 What did Paul preach and teach (Acts 28:31)?