

“Boldly and Without Hindrance”

Acts 28:16-31, ESV

INTRODUCTION: Finally, and providentially, Paul is in Rome. God’s ruling hand has orchestrated the events of Paul’s life to land him in the capital city of the Roman Empire. Rome is in its golden era—a city of wealth, strength, literacy, artistry, but unimaginably immoral, decadent, and pagan. Paul would write Ephesians, Philippians, Philemon, Colossians while in Rome, in fact while in prison. He also wrote 2 Timothy (his last writing) while imprisoned in Rome. Praise God, the gospel would be planted at the very center of strategic trade and government and would spread across the world!

Outline of the Text:

- 1). Paul is in **Rome** (v. 16). Paul is given extraordinary **freedom** to do the Lord’s bidding. Praise God!
- 2). BIG PICTURE of **how/why** Paul is now in Rome (v. 17-20).
- 3). Paul **expounded** and **declared** (v. 21-22):
 - The **Kingdom** of God (v. 23)
 - **Jesus** from both the **Law** of Moses and the **Prophets** (v. 23)
- 4). **Responses Varied** (v. 24-25).
 - Some were **convinced** (v. 24)
 - Others **disbelieved** (v. 24)
 - Some **argued** among themselves (v. 25).
- 5). **Salvation** of God has been sent to the **Gentiles** (v. 28).
- 6). Paul **preached** the **Kingdom of God** and taught about the **Lord Jesus Christ** (v. 31).

Appropriate Conclusions as We Wrap Up Acts:

- ❖ The Good News is that **forgiveness** and **eternal life** are a gift of God’s **grace** received through **faith** in **Christ** and available to all people.
- ❖ God has empowered His church by the **Holy Spirit**.
- ❖ The church will always face **opposition**, and it would seem the church grows best and most in the face of difficulty, demonstrating herself to be of God. The church must remain a faithful witness.
- ❖ The church must **make Jesus known** by preaching, personal testimony, or defense before authorities. God has a plan for expanding Christianity and we are a part of that plan and movement.
- ❖ A **Spirit**-empowered, **Christ**-centered, **Bible**-teaching, **praying** church is the hope for this world.