



Sermon Notes

Acts 22:17–29 (ESV) — **17** “When I had returned to Jerusalem and was praying in the temple, I fell into a trance **18** and saw him saying to me, ‘Make haste and get out of Jerusalem quickly, because they will not accept your testimony about me.’ **19** And I said, ‘Lord, they themselves know that in one synagogue after another I imprisoned and beat those who believed in you. **20** And when the blood of Stephen your witness was being shed, I myself was standing by and approving and watching over the garments of those who killed him.’ **21** And he said to me, ‘Go, for I will send you far away to the Gentiles.’ ” **22** Up to this word they listened to him. Then they raised their voices and said, “Away with such a fellow from the earth! For he should not be allowed to live.” **23** And as they were shouting and throwing off their cloaks and flinging dust into the air, **24** the tribune ordered him to be brought into the barracks, saying that he should be examined by flogging, to find out why they were shouting against him like this. **25** But when they had stretched him out for the whips, Paul said to the centurion who was standing by, “Is it lawful for you to flog a man who is a Roman citizen and uncondemned?” **26** When the centurion heard this, he went to the tribune and said to him, “What are you about to do? For this man is a Roman citizen.” **27** So the tribune came and said to him, “Tell me, are you a Roman citizen?” And he said, “Yes.” **28** The tribune answered, “I bought this citizenship for a large sum.” Paul said, “But I am a citizen by birth.” **29** So those who were about to examine him withdrew from him immediately, and the tribune also was afraid, for he realized that Paul was a Roman citizen and that he had bound him.

March 1, 2026

(Answer key located on the last page)

I. CALLED IN PRAYER — The Starting Place of Bold Living

"When I had returned to Jerusalem and was praying in the temple, I fell into a trance..." — Acts 22:17, 21 (ESV)

KEY TRUTH:

God spoke to Paul not in activity or busyness, but in:

_____.

Prayer is not something you do _____ the real work starts — prayer is where the real work _____.

APPLICATION:

This week, take _____ minutes every morning — before your phone, before the news — and _____. The clearest direction you receive will come from the _____ moment.

II. CONFRONTED WITH OPPOSITION — The Struggle of Standing Firm

"Up to this word they listened to him. Then they raised their voices and said, 'Away with such a fellow...'" — Acts 22:22–24 (ESV)

KEY TRUTH:

The crowd turned on Paul the moment he said one word: _____ . Truth that challenges what people are _____ with will provoke a reaction.

Our job is _____ , not _____ .

APPLICATION:

Is there a truth you have been sitting on because you are afraid of how someone will _____? You cannot control the reaction — you are only responsible for whether you were _____.

III. COVERED BY PROVIDENCE — The Protection God Arranged Before You Needed It

"Is it lawful for you to flog a man who is a Roman citizen and uncondemned?" — Acts 22:25 (ESV)

KEY TRUTH:

God does not only work through the _____. He works through legal codes, institutional procedures, and ordinary circumstances. That is _____.

APPLICATION:

Know your _____ — at work, at school, in your community. Knowing them isn't arrogance. It's _____.

🔪 PERSONAL REFLECTION

Which of the three points spoke most directly to your life right now, and why?

Answer Key

I. CALLED IN PRAYER —

Prayer | "before" | begins

- Application: 10 minutes | pray | quietest

II. CONFRONTED WITH OPPOSITION —

Gentiles | Comfortable | Faithfulness | Popularity

- Application: react | faithful

III. COVERED BY PROVIDENCE

Supernatural | Providence |

- Application: rights | preparation

The Good News

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, (Romans 5:1)

The Bad News

for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

(Romans 3:23)

The Ugly News

For the wages of sin is death, ... (Romans 6:23a)

The Great News

... but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

(Romans 6:23a)

Guess What?

You can become a Christian right now and experience salvation and the gift of eternal life through God's Son the Lord Jesus Christ! Simply Pray this Prayer Right Now! **"God thank you for Jesus Christ who died on the cross for my sins.**

Thank you for receiving what Jesus did for me on the cross as payment for my sins. Please forgive me for my sins. Right now I accept Jesus into my heart and ask that he become my Savior and Lord! Amen!"

If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved. (Romans 10:9–10)

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