

# ACTS

THE TRIUMPHS OF CHRIST BY HIS SPIRIT THROUGH HIS CHURCH

Sunday Morning, August 7, 2022 » Pastor Josiah Kagin

**Message Title: Forward Fervently**

**Message Text: Acts 21:1-16**

## Introduction:

Self-preservation is a natural human response in the face of danger, adversity, and struggle. When we observe a life that is totally abandoned to a cause no matter the personal cost, it causes us to marvel. Paul pressed fervently forward in faith and to the finish undeterred by the pleadings of those who loved him. Paul truly loved Christ more than his own life. He provides for us an example of living a life with no self-preservation.

*Matthew 10:37–38 He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. 38 And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me.*

## 1. The \_\_\_\_\_ of Disciples (1-6)

**FELLOWSHIP** — to share in, partnership

### A. Fellowship in \_\_\_\_\_ (1-4)

*Acts 21:1–4 And it came to pass, that after we were gotten from them, and had launched, we came with a straight course unto Coos, and the day following unto Rhodes, and from thence unto Patara: 2 And finding a ship sailing over unto Phenicia, we went aboard, and set forth. 3 Now when we had discovered Cyprus, we left it on the left hand, and sailed into Syria, and landed at Tyre: for there the ship was to unlade her burden. 4 And finding disciples, we tarried there seven days: who said to Paul through the Spirit, that he should not go up to Jerusalem.*

**DEFINITION—FINDING:** to discover or determine the existence, presence, or fact of.

**DEFINITION—DISCIPLES:** a committed follower of Jesus Christ.

**NOTE** — These Disciples sensed in their spirits by the Spirit of God that Paul should not go up to Jerusalem. Was Paul wrong? *See Acts 20:22, 21:14, 19:21, 23:11*

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sermon notes



## B. Fellowship in \_\_\_\_\_ (5-6)

*Acts 21:5-6 And when we had accomplished those days, we departed and went our way; and they all brought us on our way, with wives and children, till we were out of the city: and we kneeled down on the shore, and prayed. 6 And when we had taken our leave one of another, we took ship; and they returned home again.*

QUOTE: This was Paul's first contact with this church at Tyre, and yet after only one week there was a strong bond of love. The departure scene is not as poignant as the one at Miletus (20:37), but it was meaningful. —BKC

NOTE — Paul's practiced reverencing the Father both in posture and prayer before saying goodbye to dear disciples.

Prayer \_\_\_\_\_ the early church.

*Acts 2:42 And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.*

## 2. The \_\_\_\_\_ of Philip (7-9)

### A. Faithful to the \_\_\_\_\_ (7-8)

*Acts 21:7-8 And when we had finished our course from Tyre, we came to Ptolemais, and saluted the brethren, and abode with them one day. 8 And the next day we that were of Paul's company departed, and came unto Caesarea: and we entered into the house of Philip the evangelist, which was one of the seven; and abode with him.*

NOTE — This is the only time that Philip is described as 'the evangelist.'

DEFINITION—EVANGELIST: one who told the gospel story; a travelling missionary who "gospelized" communities. *Evangel means Good News*

CAESAREA — It was the capital of the Roman province of Judaea, the seat of the governors or procurators, and the headquarters of the Roman troops. It was the great Gentile city of Palestine, with a spacious artificial harbour. It was adorned with many buildings of great splendour, after the manner of the Roman cities of the West. Here Cornelius the centurion was converted through the instrumentality of Peter (Acts 10:1, 24), and thus for the first time the door of faith was opened to the Gentiles. —Easton

NOTE — Philip had settled in Caesarea for the past 20 years since the events in Samaria and on the Road to Gaza in Acts 8.

*Mark 16:15 And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.*

## **B. Faithfulness in His \_\_\_\_\_ (9)**

*Acts 21:9 And the same man had four daughters, virgins, which did prophesy.*

**VIRGINS** — pure, unmarried young women

**PROPHESY** — to declare God's truth

*1 Corinthians 11:5 But every woman that prayeth or prophesieth with her head uncovered dishonoureth her head: for that is even all one as if she were shaven.*

*Genesis 19:14 And Lot went out, and spake unto his sons in law, which married his daughters, and said, Up, get you out of this place; for the Lord will destroy this city. But he seemed as one that mocked unto his sons in law.*

*Genesis 18:18–19 Seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him? 19 For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the Lord, to do justice and judgment; that the Lord may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him.*

*Ephesians 6:4 And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.*

## **3. The \_\_\_\_\_ of Paul (10-16)**

### **A. His Fervency \_\_\_\_\_ (10-11)**

*Acts 21:10–11 And as we tarried there many days, there came down from Judaea a certain prophet, named Agabus. 11 And when he was come unto us, he took Paul's girdle, and bound his own hands and feet, and said, Thus saith the Holy Ghost, So shall the Jews at Jerusalem bind the man that owneth this girdle, and shall deliver him into the hands of the Gentiles.*

**THE PROPHECY OF AGABUS.**

**AGABUS** — An early Christian prophet from Judaea

*Acts 20:22–23 And now, behold, I go bound in the spirit unto Jerusalem, not knowing the things that shall befall me there: 23 Save that the Holy Ghost witnesseth in every city, saying that bonds and afflictions abide me.*

*2 Timothy 3:12 Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.*

## THE PLEADINGS OF THE DISCIPLES.

*Acts 21:12 And when we heard these things, both we, and they of that place, besought him not to go up to Jerusalem.*

NOTE — It seems even Luke besought Paul not to go.

### B. His Fervency \_\_\_\_\_ (13-16)

*Acts 21:13-16 Then Paul answered, What mean ye to weep and to break mine heart? for I am ready not to be bound only, but also to die at Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus. 14 And when he would not be persuaded, we ceased, saying, The will of the Lord be done. 15 And after those days we took up our carriages, and went up to Jerusalem. 16 There went with us also certain of the disciples of Caesarea, and brought with them one Mnason of Cyprus, an old disciple, with whom we should lodge.*

DEFINITION—READY: to be or become completely prepared or in condition for immediate action or use or progress; idea of being *armed*.

READY FOR SUFFERING — *imprisonments*

READY FOR SACRIFICE — *death*

NOTE — When the believers could not find agreement with Paul, they submitted the matter to the Lord. “*The will of Lord be done.*”

NOTE — He was likely carrying an offering for the Jewish believers under the distress of famine in Jerusalem. (1 Corinthians 16:1-4)

*Luke 14:26 If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple.*

## Conclusion

*Philippians 1:20-21 According to my earnest expectation and my hope, that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but that with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ shall be magnified in my body, whether it be by life, or by death. 21 For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.*

*Romans 12:1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.*

QUOTE: If I had a thousand lives, my soul should gladly have laid them all down at once to have been with Christ. — David Brainerd



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