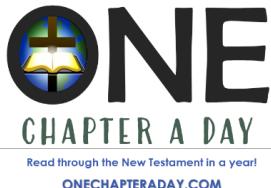


MEMORY VERSE OF THE WEEK: Acts 20:32

“And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified.”



MONDAY, FEBRUARY 21

Read Acts 20

1. Paul is having a very, very long discourse. A young man, Eutychus, is sitting in a upper window listening. Long into the evening, Eutychus falls asleep, falls out the window and down three stories to his death. Paul goes to him and revives him from the dead. Then, Paul, seemingly unfazed, eats and continues the discussion until sunrise. Luke, a physician, seems to treat this as a minor event. What do you think? The people there were "not a little comforted". How would you react if your son was killed and then raised again?
2. Paul is now at the end of his Third Missionary Journey and heading to Jerusalem. He shares with the leaders of the Church at Ephesus that "... the Holy Spirit testifies to me in every city that imprisonment and afflictions await me" (v23). What motivates Paul?
3. Paul prayed with these leaders "And there was much weeping on the part of all" (v37). Have you ever said goodbye to a loved one, knowing that you would never see them again in this world? Why did they weep? What emotions do you think they felt? Why did they love Paul so much?

- **Prayer:** *Thank you for our spiritual leaders. Let my heart be receptive to their teaching as they help me better understand Your will for my life.*

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22

Read Acts 21

1. In Tyre, Luke writes “And through the Spirit, they were telling Paul not to go to Jerusalem” (v4). In Caesarea, a prophet name Agabus gives a graphic representation of Paul’s fate if he goes to Jerusalem. Yet Paul goes. Is Paul ignoring God’s direction? Is he being self-willed and determined to become a martyr? Can we, if offered two paths, take either and still be in God’s will?
2. Paul arrives in Jerusalem. What does he do to show that he is still a proper Jew? (v23-25). Does it placate the Jews? (v27)
3. How does God turn the situation around (v40)? Paul, given the opportunity, does not sulk or act out against the injustices he suffers. How do you react when facing injustice in your life?

- **Prayer: *Lord, let me keep my eyes focused on You. Even when treated unfairly, harshly and with contempt, let my heart be full of love towards my adversaries.***

MY NOTES

My Insights / My Questions

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23

Read Acts 22

1. Paul gives a powerful message about his life and conversion. Paul related that Jesus said the Jews would do what (v18)? Now what are they doing? Paul is about to be flogged. What saves him from this punishment? (v29)
2. The Tribune is still trying to understand why the Jewish leaders are so upset. He arranges a meeting with the chief priests and all the council. Does this remind you of Pontius Pilate? What type of gods did the Romans worship? Would any of their gods be willing to die for them? Can you understand why they struggled with the message of Jesus?

- **Prayer: Lord, You call me to speak to unbelievers. Give me an opportunity this week to share Your message of salvation through Jesus to an unbeliever with words that will touch his or her heart.**

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24

Read Acts 23

1. Paul is essentially on trial. How does he disrupt the proceedings? Violence erupts. What happens next (v10)?
2. Who comes to comfort Paul (v11)?
3. Paul is now in Roman “protective” custody. What are the Jews planning (v21)? How does the Tribune find out (v16-21)? How does he respond (v23)?

- **Prayer: God, You established government to help our society protect the innocent. Thank you for protecting Your people through just governments.**

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25

Read Acts 24

1. Felix listens to Ananias. Who is Ananias’ spokesman (v1)? Why does he need a spokesman? What are the charges (v5-6)? How does Paul respond?
2. Paul is, essentially, placed under house arrest by Felix. Who is Drusilla? Do you think that Felix and she want to know more about The Way and Jesus (v26)?
3. What else does Felix want (v26)?

- **Prayer: Jesus, let me, like Paul, always take pains to have a clear conscience toward both God and man.**

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26

Read Acts 25

1. After two years, the Jewish leaders still want to kill Paul. They now try diplomacy. What is the main difficulty with their accusations (v7)? Festus would be happy to send Paul to Jerusalem. Paul, knowing that he would never receive a fair trial there, does what (v11)?
2. Festus now relates the story of Paul to the King, Agrippa and his wife Bernice. How does Agrippa respond (v22)?
3. With lots of pomp and circumstance, Agrippa holds court to hear Paul. Festus gives an accurate account of the situation to the king. What is Festus’, a good bureaucrat, major procedural concern (v27)?

- **Prayer: Holy Spirit, give me Your words when in front of “kings”.**