



Power From on High

Series: Power From On High

Text: Acts 21:27-40

Title: How To Turn Suffering Into
Witnessing.

Date: Jan 4, 2026

Lesson: 118

Apostle Paul's six speeches:

1. Before the Jewish crowd in Jerusalem — Acts 22:1-21
2. Before the Roman commander in Jerusalem — Acts 22:30-23:10
3. Before the Sanhedrin — Acts 23:1-10
4. Before Felix, the Roman governor — Acts 24:1-21
5. Before Festus, the Roman governor — Acts 25:1-12
6. Before King Agrippa and Bernice — Acts 26:1-32

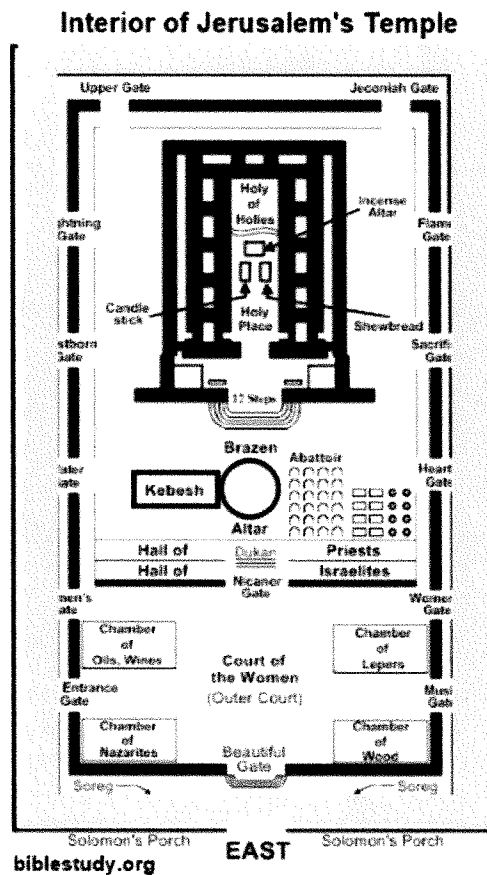
Philippians 1:12-13 Now I want you to know, brethren, that my circumstances have turned out for **the greater progress of the gospel**, 13 so that my imprisonment in the cause of Christ has become well known throughout the whole praetorian guard and to everyone else,

Acts 21:27 When the seven days were almost over, the Jews from Asia, upon seeing him in the temple, began to stir up all the crowd and laid hands on him,

“stir up”

28 crying out, “Men of Israel, come to our aid! This is the man who preaches to all men everywhere against our people and the Law and this place;

and besides he has even brought Greeks into the temple and has defiled this holy place.” 29 For they had previously seen Trophimus the Ephesian in the city with him, and they supposed that Paul had brought him into the temple.



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30 Then all the city was provoked, and the people rushed together, and taking hold of Paul they dragged him out of the temple, and immediately the doors were shut.

31 While they were seeking to kill him, a report came up to the commander of the Roman cohort that all Jerusalem was in confusion.

32 At once he took along some soldiers and centurions and ran down to them; and when they saw the commander and the soldiers, they stopped beating Paul.

33 Then the commander came up and took hold of him, and ordered him to be bound with two chains; and he began asking who he was and what he had done.

Acts 21:11 And coming to us, he took Paul's belt and bound his own feet and hands, and said, "This is what the Holy Spirit says: 'In this way the Jews at Jerusalem will bind the man who owns this belt and deliver him into the hands of the Gentiles.' "

34 But among the crowd some were shouting one thing and some another, and when he could not find out the facts because of the uproar, he ordered him to be brought into the barracks.

35 When he got to the stairs, he was carried by the soldiers because of the violence of the mob; 36 for the multitude of the people kept following them, shouting, "Away with him!"

37 As Paul was about to be brought into the barracks, he said to the commander, "May I say something to you?"

1 Peter 2:13–14 Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every human institution, whether to a king as the one in authority, 14 or to governors as sent by him for the punishment of evildoers and the praise of those who do right.

Romans 13:1–2 Every person is to be in subjection to the governing authorities. For there is no authority **except from God**, and those which exist are **established by God**. 2 Therefore whoever resists authority has opposed the ordinance of God; and they who have opposed will receive condemnation upon themselves.

John 19:11; 1 Samuel 24-26; Daniel, 1, 3,

37a And he said, "Do you know Greek?"

38 "Then you are not the Egyptian who some time ago stirred up a revolt and led the four thousand men of the Assassins out into the wilderness?"

39 But Paul said, “I am a Jew of Tarsus in Cilicia, a citizen of no insignificant city;

and I beg you, allow me to speak to the people.”

29 For they had previously **seen Trophimus the Ephesian in the city with him**, and they supposed that Paul had brought him into the temple.

40 When he had given him permission, Paul, standing on the stairs, motioned to the people with his hand; and when there was a great hush, he spoke to them in the Hebrew dialect, **saying**.

How to transform trials into testimonies:

1. Expect _____ as a result of bold faith.

2 Timothy 3:12 Indeed, all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will be persecuted

Matthew 5:10–12 “Blessed are those who have been persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 11 “Blessed are you when people insult you and persecute you, and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of Me. 12 “Rejoice and be glad, for your reward in heaven is great; for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

2. Embrace hardship as _____.

Romans 8:28–29 And we know that God causes ***all things*** to work together for ***good*** to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose. 29 For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren;

“predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son”

Do I thank God for my difficulties?

____ Always ____ Sometimes ____ Never

3. Look for signs of God’s _____.

A. Providential use of _____.

Genesis 50:20 “As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good in order to bring about this present result, to preserve many people alive

B. Providential _____

C. Providential fulfillment of _____

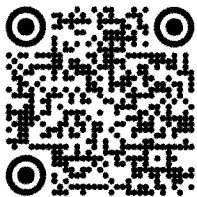
D. Providential _____

4. Determine to turn adversity into purposeful moments for

_____.

Discussion Guide

1. Have you ever been wrongly criticized. If so, how did you handle it?
2. Why do you think it's so hard for Christians to trust God when times are difficult.
3. Reread Romans 8:28-28 and share how that verse should encourage you in times of trial.
4. Can you think of a time when you missed an opportunity to turn difficulty into an opportunity to witness. Do you have a situation now?



***Meet
the staff***



***Online
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***Weekly
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ANSWERS: opposition, God's will, providence, evil, protection, prophecy, preparation, witnessing