



Power From on High

Series: Power From On High

Title: Faithfulness in Unjust
Circumstances, Part 1

Lesson: 133

Text: Acts 24:1-9

Date: May 31, 2026

The false accusations fell into several categories:

1. Promoting unlawful customs for Romans (Acts 16:20–21)
2. Persuading people away from Idol worship (Acts 19:26)
3. Turning the Jews against the Law of Moses (Acts 21:28)
4. Trying to desecrate the Temple (Acts 24:6).

Acts 23:6–7 But perceiving that one group were Sadducees and the other Pharisees, Paul began crying out in the Council, “Brethren, I am a Pharisee, a son of Pharisees; **I am on trial for the hope and resurrection of the dead!**” 7 As he said this, there occurred a dissension between the Pharisees and Sadducees, and the assembly was divided.

Acts 24:15 having a hope in God, which these men cherish themselves, that there shall certainly be a **resurrection of both the righteous and the wicked.**

21 other than for this one statement which I shouted out while standing among them, ‘**For the resurrection of the dead I am on trial before you today.**’ ”

Acts 26:23 that the Christ was to suffer, and that by reason of **His resurrection from the dead** He would be the first to proclaim light both to the Jewish people and to the Gentiles.”

The real source of our opposition is not circumstantial;
it is _____.

Ephesians 6:12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.

Genesis 3:15 And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her seed; He shall bruise you on the head, And you shall bruise him on the heel.”

“enmity”

Why does Paul keep repeating the phrase “the resurrection of the dead”?

2 Corinthians 2:15–16 For we are a fragrance of Christ to God among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing; 16 to the one an aroma from death to death, to the other an aroma from life to life. And who is adequate for these things?

1 Corinthians 15:20–23 But now Christ has been raised from the dead, the **first fruits** of those who are asleep. 21 For since by a man came death, by a man also came the resurrection of the dead. 22 For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive. 23 But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, after that those who are Christ’s at His coming,

Daniel 12:2 “Many of those who sleep in the dust of the ground will awake, these to everlasting life, but the others to disgrace and everlasting contempt.

John 5:28–29 “Do not marvel at this; for an hour is coming, in which all who are in the tombs will hear His voice, 29 and will come forth; those who did the good deeds to a resurrection of life, those who committed the evil deeds to a resurrection of judgment.

So why does this matter to us?

Acts 24:1–9 After five days, the high priest Ananias came down with some elders, with an attorney named Tertullus, and they brought charges to the governor against Paul.

“five days”

The group that showed up was highly unusual.

1. The High Priest (Ananias)
2. Elders
3. Roman attorney named Tertullus

2 After Paul had been summoned, Tertullus began to accuse him, saying to the governor, “Since we have through you attained much peace, and since by your providence reforms are being carried out for this nation, 3 we acknowledge this in every way and everywhere, most excellent Felix, with all thankfulness.

4 “But, that I may not weary you any further, I beg you to grant us, by your kindness, a brief hearing.

5 “For we have found this man a real pest and a fellow who stirs up dissension among all the Jews throughout the world, and a ringleader of the sect of the Nazarenes.

“real pest”

“stirs up dissension”

“a ringleader” of the sect of the Nazarenes.”

“sect”

6 “And he even tried to desecrate the temple;

“tried” to desecrate it.

6a and then we arrested him. We wanted to judge him according to our own Law.

7 “But Lysias the commander came along, and with much violence took him out of our hands,

8 ordering his accusers to come before you.

8a By examining him yourself concerning all these matters you will be able to ascertain the things of which we accuse him.”

9 The Jews also joined in the attack, asserting that these things were so.

Implications

- 1. The ultimate reason the world opposes us is because we are _____, the promised Seed of the woman.**

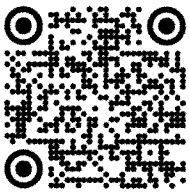
John 15:18–19 “If the world hates you, you know that it has hated Me before it hated you. 19 “If you were of the world, the world would love its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, because of this the world hates you.

- 2. We will be labeled intolerant, divisive, and a dangerous _____ to a world that opposes Christ.**

- 3. Our enemies may target us, but their true conflict is with the _____ Christ.**

Discussion Guide

1. What do Paul's repeated references to "the resurrection of the dead" teach us about the heart of the gospel?
2. How does Genesis 3:15 help explain why believers and unbelievers often experience spiritual hostility toward one another?
3. In what ways does 2 Corinthians 2:15–16 help us understand why the same gospel can be life to some and offense or death to others?
4. What are some modern ways Christians are misrepresented or labeled as threats, and how should they respond?



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ANSWERS: spiritual, in Christ, threat, resurrected