**PAUL’S HOPE IN THE RESURRECTION**

Acts 24:1-27 (Key verse: 24:14a)

*“...and I have the same hope in God as these men themselves have, that there will be a resurrection of both the righteous and the wicked.”*

1. Why did Ananias and some elders go down to Caesarea with a lawyer? (1) What do you think of Tertullus’ opening address? (2-4) What are the three charges the religious leaders brought against Paul? (5-6) How did the accusers close their case? (Footnote verse 7-9)
2. What do you think of Paul’s opening address? (10) How did Paul defend himself against the first charge? (11-13) The second charge? (14-16) The third charge? (17-18) What do you think about Paul’s closing remarks? (19-20)

1. Read verse 14 again. In his defence, what did Paul admit? (14) What does Paul mean by him being a “follower of the Way”? (John 14:6[[1]](#footnote-1)) Why did the religious leaders call it ‘a sect’? Yet how could Paul still identify himself as a follower of Jesus? (Rom 1:16,[[2]](#footnote-2) Mark 8:38[[3]](#footnote-3)) What was the basis of Paul’s unshakable faith in Jesus? (14b, Luke 24:44[[4]](#footnote-4))
2. Read verse 15 again. How does death affect people’s lives? (1 Cor 15:32,[[5]](#footnote-5) Heb 2:15[[6]](#footnote-6)) But what hope did Paul have as a follower of Jesus? (Jn 5:28-29,[[7]](#footnote-7) 1 Cor 15:51-52[[8]](#footnote-8)) Practically, how did the hope in the resurrection affect Paul’s life? (16)
3. What did Felix decide after hearing both sides’ arguments? (22-23) Why do you think he was so indecisive? Why do you think Felix wanted to listen to Paul? (24) What did Paul talk to Felix about and why? (25a) What should Felix have done to receive the hope of the resurrection in his heart? Yet how did he respond? Why? (25b-27)

1. John 14:6, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Romans 1:16, “I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes.” [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Mark 8:38, If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of him when he comes in his Father’s glory with the holy angels” [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Luke 24:44, “This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms.” [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. 1 Cor 15:32, If the dead are not raised, “Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die.” [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. Heb 2:15 those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death.” [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. John 5:28,29, “...a time is coming when all who are in their graves will hear his voice and come out–those who have done good will rise to live, and those who have done evil will rise to be condemned.” [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. 1 Cor 15:51-52, Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed— 52 in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. [↑](#footnote-ref-8)