

**The Apostle Paul, Servant of Christ**

**WELCOME**

**Lorin Cranford**

**SESSION 62:  
CAPTIVITY AND DEATH**

**What the study is about tonight:**

**8.1.2.5.4.2 Paul's defense**

**8.1.2.5.4.2.4 Speech Point 2: Paul's conversion**



**Add Notes Here:**

# The Apostle Paul, Servant of Christ

## The Apostle Paul, *Servant of Christ*

An Overview Survey of the Contributions of this Christian Leader



by

Dr. Lorin L. Cranford

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- **Unit II: Paul the Missionary**
- **Chapter 8: Captivity and Death**
  - **8.1.2 .5.4.2 Paul's defense**
  - **8.1.2.5.4.2.4 Point Two: Conversion**



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# The Apostle Paul, Servant of Christ

- **Session Sixty-Two:**

- Taken from chapter eight of the book
- Emphasis on the imprisonment in Caesarea

- **Learning Goals:**

- 1. Learning about doing missions from the scripture text
- 2. Understanding how this information has been interpreted



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# The Apostle Paul, Servant of Christ

## 8.1.0 Captivity and Death

8.1.0 Paul's Final Period of Ministry

8.1.1 Arrest in Jerusalem (AD 57),  
Acts 21:17-23:22

8.1.2. Imprisonment in Caesarea (57-60)  
Acts 23:23-26:32

8.1.2.1 Protecting Paul in Jerusalem  
Acts 23:23-30

8.1.2.2 Delivering Paul to Caesarea  
Acts 23:31-35

8.1.2.3 Paul appearing before Felix  
Acts 24:1-23

8.1.2.4 Paul languishes in prison  
Acts 24:24-27

8.1.2.5 New opportunity before Festus  
Acts 25:1-26:32



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8.1.1 Arrest in Jerusalem (AD 57),  
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Acts 24:1-23

8.1.2.4 Paul languishes in prison  
Acts 24:24-27

8.1.2.5 New Chance before Festus  
Acts 25:1-26:32

8.1.2.5.1 Festus' visit to Jerusalem  
Acts 25:1-5

8.1.2.5.2 Paul's case in Caesarea  
Acts 25:6-12

8.1.2.5.3 Festus consults with Agrippa  
Acts 25:13-22

8.1.2.5.4 Paul's defense before Agrippa  
Acts 25:23-26:32

8.1.2.5.4.1 Rationale for the appearance  
Acts 25:23-27

8.1.2.5.4.2 Paul's defense  
Acts 26:1-32



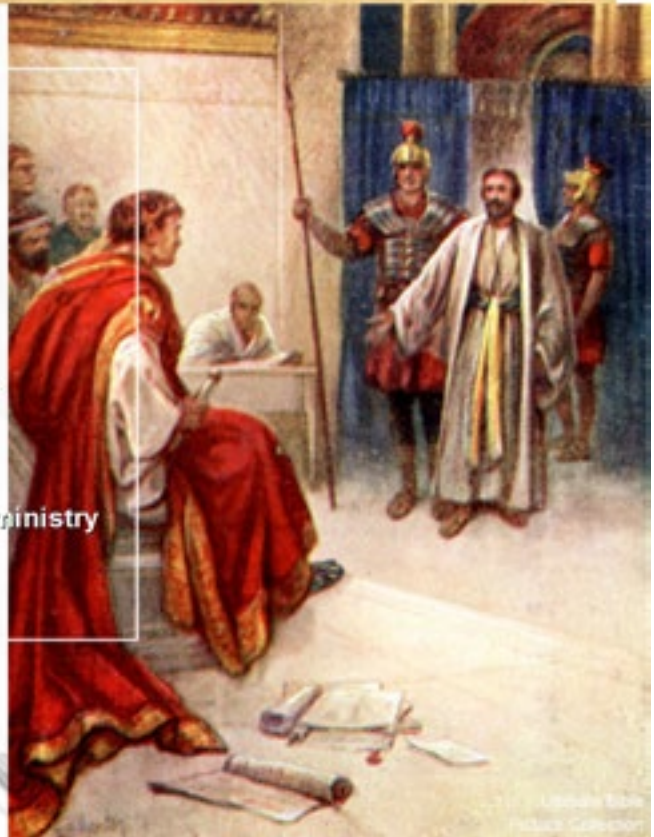
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# The Apostle Paul, Servant of Christ

## 8.1.0 Captivity and Death

- 8.1.0 Paul's Final Period of Ministry
- 8.1.2.5 New Chance before Festus
  - Acts 25:1-26:32
  - 8.1.2.5.4.2 Paul's defense
    - Acts 26:1-32
    - 8.1.2.5.4.2.1 Narrative Introduction
      - Acts 26:1
      - 8.1.2.5.4.2.2 Speech Introduction
        - Acts 26:2-3
        - 8.1.2.5.4.2.3 Speech point one: Paul's Pharisee life
          - Acts 26:4-11
          - 8.1.2.5.4.2.4 Speech point two: Paul's conversion
            - Acts 26:12-18
            - 8.1.2.5.4.2.5 Speech point three: Paul's preaching ministry
              - Acts 26:19-23
              - 8.1.2.5.4.2.6 Narrative Conclusion
                - Acts 26:24-32



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# The Apostle Paul, Servant of Christ

8.1.2 Imprisonment in Caesarea, Acts 23:23-26:32

8.1.2.5 New Chance before Festus, Acts 25:1-26:32

8.1.2.5.4 Paul defends himself before Agrippa, Acts 25:23-26:32

8.1.2.5.4.2 Paul's defense, Acts 26:1-32

8.1.2.5.4.2.4 Speech point 2: Paul's conversion, Acts 26:12-18, pt. 1, v. 12



Scene:	Acts 9:3-8	Acts 22:6-11	Acts 26:12-18
2. Damascus Road	<p>3 Ἐν δὲ τῷ πορεύεσθαι ἐγένετο αὐτὸν ἐγγίζειν τῇ Δαμασκῷ, ἐξαίφνης τε αὐτὸν περιήστραψεν φῶς ἐκ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ</p> <p>3 <i>Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him.</i></p>	<p>6 Ἐγένετο δέ μοι πορευομένῳ καὶ ἐγγίζοντι τῇ Δαμασκῷ περὶ μεσημβρίαν ἐξαίφνης ἐκ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ περιεστράψαι φῶς ἰκανὸν περὶ ἐμέ,</p> <p>6 <i>While I was on my way and approaching Damascus, about noon a great light from heaven suddenly shone about me.</i></p>	<p>12 Ἐν οἷς πορευόμενος εἰς τὴν Δαμασκὸν μετ' ἐξουσίας καὶ ἐπιτροπῆς τῆς τῶν ἀρχιερέων</p> <p>12 <i>With this in mind, I was traveling to Damascus with the authority and commission of the chief priests,</i></p>



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# The Apostle Paul, Servant of Christ

8.1.2 Imprisonment in Caesarea, Acts 23:23-26:32

8.1.2.5 New Chance before Festus, Acts 25:1-26:32

8.1.2.5.4 Paul defends himself before Agrippa, Acts 25:23-26:32

8.1.2.5.4.2 Paul's defense, Acts 26:1-32

8.1.2.5.4.2.4 Speech point 2: Paul's conversion, Acts 26:12-18, pt. 2, v. 13



Scene:	Acts 9:3-8	Acts 22:6-11	Acts 26:12-18
2. Damascus Road	<p>3 Ἐν δὲ τῷ πορεύεσθαι ἐγένετο αὐτὸν ἐγγίξειν τῇ Δαμασκῷ, ἐξαίφνης τε αὐτὸν περιήστραψεν φῶς ἐκ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ</p> <p>3 <i>Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him.</i></p>	<p>6 Ἐγένετο δὲ μοι πορευομένῳ καὶ ἐγγίζοντι τῇ Δαμασκῷ περὶ μεσημβρίαν ἐξαίφνης ἐκ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ περιεστράψαι φῶς ἱκανὸν περὶ ἐμέ,</p> <p>6 <i>While I was on my way and approaching Damascus, about noon a great light from heaven suddenly shone about me.</i></p>	<p>13 ἡμέρας μέσης κατὰ τὴν ὁδὸν εἶδον, βασιλεῦ, οὐρανόθεν ὑπὲρ τὴν λαμπρότητα τοῦ ἡλίου περιλάμψαν με φῶς καὶ τοὺς σὺν ἐμοὶ πορευομένους.</p> <p>13 <i>when at midday along the road, your Excellency, I saw a light from heaven, brighter than the sun, shining around me and my companions.</i></p>



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8.1.2 Imprisonment in Caesarea, Acts 23:23-26:32

8.1.2.5 New Chance before Festus, Acts 25:1-26:32

8.1.2.5.4 Paul defends himself before Agrippa, Acts 25:23-26:32

8.1.2.5.4.2 Paul's defense, Acts 26:1-32

8.1.2.5.4.2.4 Speech point 2: Paul's conversion, Acts 26:12-18, pt. 3, v. 14



Scene:	Acts 9:3-8	Acts 22:6-11	Acts 26:12-18
2. Damascus Road	<p>4 καὶ πεσὼν ἐπὶ τὴν γῆν ἤκουσεν φωνὴν λέγουσαν αὐτῷ· Σαοὺλ Σαοὺλ, τί με διώκεις;</p> <p>4 <i>He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?"</i></p>	<p>7 ἔπεσά τε εἰς τὸ ἔδαφος καὶ ἤκουσα φωνῆς λεγούσης μοι· Σαοὺλ Σαοὺλ, τί με διώκεις;</p> <p>7 <i>I fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to me, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?"</i></p>	<p>14 πάντων τε καταπεσόντων ἡμῶν εἰς τὴν γῆν ἤκουσα φωνὴν λέγουσαν πρὸς με τῇ Ἑβραϊδὶ διαλέκτῳ· Σαοὺλ Σαοὺλ, τί με διώκεις; σκληρόν σοι πρὸς κέντρα λακτίζειν.</p> <p>14 <i>When we had all fallen to the ground, I heard a voice saying to me in the Hebrew language, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me? It hurts you to kick against the goads."</i></p>



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8.1.2 Imprisonment in Caesarea, Acts 23:23-26:32

8.1.2.5 New Chance before Festus, Acts 25:1-26:32

8.1.2.5.4 Paul defends himself before Agrippa, Acts 25:23-26:32

8.1.2.5.4.2 Paul's defense, Acts 26:1-32

8.1.2.5.4.2.4 Speech point 2: Paul's conversion, Acts 26:12-18, pt. 4, v. 15



Scene:	Acts 9:3-8	Acts 22:6-11	Acts 26:12-18
2. Damascus Road	<p>5 εἶπεν δέ· τίς εἶ, κύριε; ὁ δέ· ἐγὼ εἰμι Ἰησοῦς ὃν σὺ διώκεις·</p> <p><i>5 He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. . . .</i></p> <p>7 The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one.</p>	<p>8 ἐγὼ δὲ ἀπεκρίθην· τίς εἶ, κύριε; εἶπέν τε πρὸς με· ἐγὼ εἰμι Ἰησοῦς ὁ Ναζωραῖος, ὃν σὺ διώκεις. 9 οἱ δὲ σὺν ἐμοὶ ὄντες τὸ μὲν φῶς ἐθεάσαντο τὴν δὲ φωνὴν οὐκ ἤκουσαν τοῦ λαλοῦντός μοι.</p> <p><i>8 I answered, "Who are you, Lord?" Then he said to me, "I am Jesus of Nazareth whom you are persecuting."</i> 9 Now those who were with me saw the light but did not hear the voice of the one who was speaking to me.</p>	<p>15 ἐγὼ δὲ εἶπα· τίς εἶ, κύριε; ὁ δὲ κύριος εἶπεν· ἐγὼ εἰμι Ἰησοῦς ὃν σὺ διώκεις.</p> <p><i>15 I asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The Lord answered, "I am Jesus whom you are persecuting."</i></p>

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8.1.2 Imprisonment in Caesarea, Acts 23:23-26:32

8.1.2.5 New Chance before Festus, Acts 25:1-26:32

8.1.2.5.4 Paul defends himself before Agrippa, Acts 25:23-26:32

8.1.2.5.4.2 Paul's defense, Acts 26:1-32

8.1.2.5.4.2.4 Speech point 2: Paul's conversion, Acts 26:12-18, pt. 5, v. 16



Scene:	Acts 9:3-8	Acts 22:6-11	Acts 26:12-18
2. Damascus Road	<p>6 ἀλλ' ἀνάστηθι καὶ εἰσελθε εἰς τὴν πόλιν καὶ λαληθήσεται σοι ὃ τί σε δεῖ ποιεῖν.</p> <p>6 But <i>get up</i> and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do."</p>	<p>10 εἶπον δέ· τί ποιήσω, κύριε; ὁ δὲ κύριος εἶπεν πρὸς με· ἀναστὰς πορεύου εἰς Δαμασκὸν κακεῖ σοι λαληθήσεται περὶ πάντων ὧν τέτακται σοι ποιῆσαι.</p> <p>10 I asked, "What am I to do, Lord?" The Lord said to me, "Get up and go to Damascus; there you will be told everything that has been assigned to you to do."</p>	<p>16 ἀλλ' ἀνάστηθι καὶ στήθι ἐπὶ τοὺς πόδας σου· εἰς τοῦτο γὰρ ὤφθην σοι, προχειρίσασθαι σε ὑπηρέτην καὶ μάρτυρα ὧν τε εἶδές [με] ὧν τε ὀφθήσομαί σοι,</p> <p>16 But <i>get up and stand on your feet; for I have appeared to you for this purpose, to appoint you to serve and testify to the things in which you have seen me and to those in which I will appear to you.</i></p>



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8.1.2.5.4.2 Paul's defense, Acts 26:1-32

8.1.2.5.4.2.4 Speech point 2: Paul's conversion, Acts 26:12-18, pt. 6, v. 17



Scene:	Acts 9:3-8	Acts 22:6-11	Acts 26:12-18
2. Damascus Road	<p>8 ἠγέρθη δὲ Σαῦλος ἀπὸ τῆς γῆς, ἀνεωγμένων δὲ τῶν ὀφθαλμῶν αὐτοῦ οὐδὲν ἔβλεπεν· χειραγωγοῦντες δὲ αὐτὸν εἰσήγαγον εἰς Δαμασκόν.</p> <p>8 Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus.</p>	<p>11 ὥς δὲ οὐκ ἐνέβλεπον ἀπὸ τῆς δόξης τοῦ φωτὸς ἐκείνου, χειραγωγούμενος ὑπὸ τῶν συνόντων μοι ἦλθον εἰς Δαμασκόν.</p> <p>11 Since I could not see because of the brightness of that light, those who were with me took my hand and led me to Damascus.</p>	<p>17 ἐξαιρούμενός σε ἐκ τοῦ λαοῦ καὶ ἐκ τῶν ἐθνῶν εἰς οὓς ἐγὼ ἀποστέλλω σε</p> <p><i>17 I will rescue you from your people and from the Gentiles — to whom I am sending you.</i></p>

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8.1.2.5.4.2.4 Speech point 2: Paul's conversion, Acts 26:12-18, pt. 7, v. 18



Scene:	Acts 9:3-8	Acts 22:6-11	Acts 26:12-18
2. Damascus Road	<p>8 ἠγέρθη δὲ Σαῦλος ἀπὸ τῆς γῆς, ἀνειωγμένων δὲ τῶν ὀφθαλμῶν αὐτοῦ οὐδὲν ἔβλεπεν· χειραγωγοῦντες δὲ αὐτὸν εἰσήγαγον εἰς Δαμασκόν.</p> <p>8 Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus.</p>	<p>11 ὡς δὲ οὐκ ἐνέβλεπον ἀπὸ τῆς δόξης τοῦ φωτὸς ἐκείνου, χειραγωγούμενος ὑπὸ τῶν συνόντων μοι ἦλθον εἰς Δαμασκόν.</p> <p>11 Since I could not see because of the brightness of that light, those who were with me took my hand and led me to Damascus.</p>	<p>18 ἀνοίξει ὀφθαλμοὺς αὐτῶν, τοῦ ἐπιστρέψαι ἀπὸ σκοτῶν εἰς φῶς καὶ τῆς ἐξουσίας τοῦ σατανᾶ ἐπὶ τὸν θεόν, τοῦ λαβεῖν αὐτοὺς ἄφεσιν ἁμαρτιῶν καὶ κληρὸν ἐν τοῖς ἡγιασμένοις πίστει τῇ εἰς ἐμέ.</p> <p><i>18 to open their eyes so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me."</i></p>

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8.1.2.5.4.2 Paul's defense, Acts 26:1-32

8.1.2.5.4.2.4 Speech point 2: Paul's conversion, Acts 26:12-18, Common elements

First, we should note the common core elements of the three accounts.

- Paul was travelling to Damascus
- A bright light suddenly appears causing the traveling group to fall to the ground
- Paul hears a voice asking him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?"
- Not recognizing the person speaking, Paul asks, "Who are you, Lord?"
- The reply from the voice is "I am Jesus whom you are persecuting." [slight variation here]



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# The Apostle Paul, Servant of Christ

**8.1.2 Imprisonment in Caesarea, Acts 23:23-26:32**

**8.1.2.5 New Chance before Festus, Acts 25:1-26:32**

**8.1.2.5.4 Paul defends himself before Agrippa, Acts 25:23-26:32**

**8.1.2.5.4.2 Paul's defense, Acts 26:1-32**

**8.1.2.5.4.2.4 Speech point 2: Paul's conversion, Acts 26:12-18, Distinctives, #1**

*First, the authorization of Paul's trip to Damascus.* In 9:2, Luke depicted it as: "went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus (ἐπιστολάς εἰς Δαμασκὸν πρὸς τὰς συναγωγάς), so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem." In 22:5, it is characterized as "From them I also received letters to the brothers in Damascus (ἐπιστολάς δεξιόμενος πρὸς τοὺς ἀδελφούς εἰς Δαμασκὸν)." In 26:12, this authorization is described as "with the authority and commission of the chief priests" (μετ' ἐξουσίας καὶ ἐπιτροπῆς τῆς τῶν ἀρχιερέων).



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8.1.2.5.4.2.4 Speech point 2: Paul's conversion, Acts 26:12-18, Distinctives, #2

The *source of authorization* is first depicted in 9:2 as coming from the high priest (τῷ ἀρχιερεῖ), then in 22:5 as from “the high priest and the whole council of elders” (ὁ ἀρχιερεὺς...καὶ πᾶν τὸ πρεσβυτέριον· παρ’ ὧν καὶ...), and finally in 26:12 as from “the chief priests” (τῆς τῶν ἀρχιερέων).



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8.1.2.5.4.2.4 Speech point 2: Paul's conversion, Acts 26:12-18, Distinctives, #3

*Another distinctive* (26:14) in the third narrative is the mentioning that *the risen Christ spoke to Paul in Hebrew* on the Damascus road: τῇ Ἑβραϊκῇ διαλέκτῳ, "in the Hebrew language."



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8.1.2.5.4.2.4 Speech point 2: Paul's conversion, Acts 26:12-18, Distinctives, #4

A *fourth distinctive* in Acts 26:14 is the additional statement of Jesus to Paul: σκληρόν σοι πρὸς κέντρα λακτίζεις, "It hurts you to kick against the goads." The beginning question, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?" (Σαοὺλ Σαοὺλ, τί με διώκεις;), is common to all three narratives. What was implied by the statement following Jesus' question? With a Greek proverb, not found in ancient Jewish literature, Christ then declares that resisting the calling of God through Christ is futile. To include this in a speech before Greek speaking Romans was entirely fitting.



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**8.1.2.5.4.2.4 Speech point 2: Paul's conversion, Acts 26:12-18, Distinctives, #5**

*Acts 26:16-18 contains significantly greater detail than either 9:15-16 or 22:14-15 and is presented as words directly from Christ, rather than mediated through Ananias:*

*16 But get up and stand on your feet; for I have appeared to you for this purpose, to appoint you to serve and testify to the things in which you have seen me and to those in which I will appear to you. 17 I will rescue you from your people and from the Gentiles — to whom I am sending you 18 to open their eyes so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.*

*In this text nothing is mentioned about Paul being baptized, as was in the first two texts. The instructions focus on Christ's calling of Paul to ministry, rather than on salvation commitment. It is in the preaching of the Gospel by Paul that the message of salvation becomes central (v. 18). Paul is to be a faithful witness to Christ (v. 16) and Christ promises to protect Paul (v. 17).*



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## The Apostle Paul, Servant of Christ

- **What can we learn from Paul's defense before Agrippa?**

- ✓ 1. When Paul shares his testimony of conversion he customizes it to fit his audience.
- ✓ 2. Luke in recording Paul's conversion signals sensitivity to his reading audience.
- ✓ 3. Calling involves coming to God through Christ and receiving a 'job assignment.'
- ✓ 4. His testimony affirmed his commitment to Christ in a life changing moment.



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# The Apostle Paul, Servant of Christ

- **NEXT Session:**
- **8.1.2.5.4.2 Paul's defense**
- **8.1.2.5.4.2.5 Speech point three: ministry**



**Add Notes Here:**



**The Apostle Paul, Servant of Christ**

**Thank You for Coming!**  
**Gracias por venir esta noche!**  
**Until Next Week!**  
**Hasta la próxima semana!**  
**Have a safe trip home!**  
**Tener un viaje seguro a casa!**



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