

The Apostle Paul, Servant of Christ

WELCOME

Lorin Cranford

SESSION 86:

**Reconstruction of Ministry
Subsequent Arrest and Execution**

What the study is about tonight:

8.1.5 Release from imprisonment and resumption of ministry

8.1.6.2 Snapshot glimpses of the last days, pt. 4

8.1.6.3 Reconstructing the end of Paul's life



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

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Unit II: Paul the Missionary

Chapter 8: Release and Resumption

8.1.6 Subsequent arrest

8.1.6.2 Snapshot glimpses of the last days

8.1.6.3 The End of Paul's life



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- **Session Eighty-six**
 - Taken from chapter eight of the book
 - Emphasis on ministry after Rome
- **Learning Goals:**
 - 1. Learning about doing missions from the scripture text
 - 2. Understanding how this information has been interpreted



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8.1.6 Subsequent arrest

8.1.6 Subsequent Arrest and Execution

8.1.6.2 Snapshot Glimpses of the last days

Second Timothy

Church Fathers

NT Apocrypha

8.1.6.3 Reconstructing the end of Paul's life



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8.1.6 Subsequent arrest

8.1.6.2 Glimpses of the last days, Pt. 4, Martyrdom X.I.



X THE MARTYRDOM

I. Now there were awaiting Paul at Rome Luke from Galatia (Gaul, Gk.) and Titus from Dalmatia: whom when Paul saw he was glad: and hired a grange outside Rome, wherein with the brethren he taught the word of truth, and he became noised abroad and many souls were added unto the Lord, so that there was a rumour throughout all Rome, and much people came unto him from the household of Caesar, believing, and there was great joy.

And a certain Patroclus, a cup-bearer of Caesar, came at even unto the grange, and not being able because of the press to enter in to Paul, he sat in a high window and listened to him teaching the word of God. But whereas the evil devil envied the love of the brethren, Patroclus fell down from the window and died, and forthwith it was told unto Nero.

But Paul perceiving it by the spirit said: Men and brethren, the evil one hath gained occasion to tempt you: go out of the house and ye shall find a lad fallen from the height and now ready to give up the ghost; take him up and bring him hither to me. And they went and brought him; and when the people saw it they were troubled. But Paul said: Now, brethren, let your faith appear; come all of you and let us weep unto our Lord Jesus Christ, that this lad may live and we continue in quietness. And when all had lamented, the lad received his spirit again, and they set him on a beast and sent him back alive, together with the rest that were of Caesar's household.

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8.1.6 Subsequent arrest

8.1.6.2 Glimpses of the last days, Pt. 4, Martyrdom X.II.



X THE MARTYRDOM

II. But Nero, when he heard of the death of Patroclus, was sore grieved, and when he came in from the bath he commanded another to be set over the wine. But his servants told him, saying: Caesar, Patroclus liveth and standeth at the table. And Caesar, hearing that Patroclus lived, was affrighted and would not go in. But when he went in, he saw Patroclus, and was beside himself, and said: Patroclus, livest thou? And he said: I live, Caesar. And he said: Who is he that made thee to live? And the lad, full of the mind of faith, said: Christ Jesus, the king of the ages. And Caesar was troubled and said: Shall he, then, be king of the ages and overthrow all kingdoms? Patroclus saith unto him: Yea, he overthroweth all kingdoms and he alone shall be for ever, and there shall be no kingdom that shall escape him. And he smote him on the face and said: Patroclus, art thou also a soldier of that king? And he said: Yea, Lord Caesar, for he raised me when I was dead. And Barsabas Justus of the broad feet, and Urion the Cappadocian, and Festus the Galatian, Caesar's chief men, said: We also are soldiers of the king of the ages. And he shut them up in prison, having grievously tormented them, whom he loved much, and commanded the soldiers of the great king to be sought out, and set forth a decree to this effect, that all that were found to be Christians and soldiers of Christ should be slain.



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8.1.6 Subsequent arrest

8.1.6.2 Glimpses of the last days, Pt. 4, Martyrdom X.III.



X THE MARTYRDOM

III. And among many others Paul also was brought, bound: unto whom all his fellow-prisoners gave heed; so that Caesar perceived that he was over the camp. And he said to him: Thou that art the great king's man, but my prisoner, how thoughtest thou well to come by stealth into the government of the Romans and levy soldiers out of my province? But Paul, filled with the Holy Ghost, said before them all: O Caesar, not only out of thy province do we levy soldiers, but out of the whole world. For so hath it been ordained unto us, that no man should be refused who wisheth to serve my king. And if it like thee also to serve him (Lat. thou wilt not repent thereof: but think not that the wealth, &c., which seems better), it is not wealth nor the splendour that is now in this life that shall save thee; but if thou submit and entreat him, thou shalt be saved; for in one day (or one day) he shall fight against the world with fire. And when Caesar heard that, he commanded all the prisoners to be burned with fire, but Paul to be beheaded after the law of the Romans.

But Paul kept not silence concerning the word, but communicated with Longus the prefect and Cestus the centurion.

Nero therefore went on (was) (perhaps add 'raging') in Rome, slaying many Christians without a hearing, by the working of the evil one; so that the Romans stood before the palace and cried It sufficeth, Caesar! for the men are our own! thou destroyest the strength of the Romans! Then at that he was persuaded and ceased, and commanded that no man should touch any Christian, until he should learn thoroughly concerning them.

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8.1.6 Subsequent arrest

8.1.6.2 Glimpses of the last days, Pt. 4, Martyrdom X.IV.



X THE MARTYRDOM

IV. Then was Paul brought unto him after the decree; and he abode by his word that he should be beheaded. And Paul said: Caesar, it is not for a little space that I live unto my king; and if thou behead me, this will I do: I will arise and show myself unto thee that I am not dead but live unto my Lord Jesus Christ, who cometh to judge the world.

But Longus and Cestus said unto Paul: Whence have ye this king, that ye believe in him and will not change your mind, even unto death? And Paul communicated unto them the word and said: Ye men that are in this ignorance and error, change your mind and be saved from the fire that cometh upon all the world: for we serve not, as ye suppose, a king that cometh from the earth, but from heaven, even the living God, who because of the iniquities that are done in this world, cometh as a judge; and blessed is that man who shall believe in him and shall live for ever when he cometh to burn the world and purge it thoroughly. Then they beseeching him said: We entreat thee, help us, and we will let thee go. But he answered and said: I am not a deserter of Christ, but a lawful soldier of the living God: if I had known that I should die, O Longus and Cestus, I would have done it, but seeing that I live unto God and love myself, I go unto the Lord, to come with him in the glory of his Father. They say unto him: How then shall we live when thou art beheaded?

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8.1.6 Subsequent arrest

8.1.6.2 Glimpses of the last days, Pt. 4, Martyrdom X.V.



X THE MARTYRDOM

V. And while they yet spake thus, Nero sent one Parthenius and Pheres to see if Paul were already beheaded; and they found him yet alive. And he called them to him and said: Believe on the living God, which raiseth me and all them that believe on him from the dead. And they said: We go now unto Nero; but when thou diest and risest again, then will we believe on thy God. And as Longus and Cestus entreated him yet more concerning salvation, he saith to them: Come quickly unto my grave in the morning and ye shall find two men praying, Titus and Luke. They shall give you the seal in the Lord.

Then Paul stood with his face to the east and lifted up his hands unto heaven and prayed a long time, and in his prayer he conversed in the Hebrew tongue with the fathers, and then stretched forth his neck without speaking. And when the executioner (speculator) struck off his head, milk spurted upon the cloak of the soldier. And the soldier and all that were there present when they saw it marvelled and glorified God which had given such glory unto Paul: and they went and told Caesar what was done.



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8.1.6 Subsequent arrest

8.1.6.2 Glimpses of the last days, Pt. 4, Martyrdom X.VI.



X THE MARTYRDOM

VI. And when he heard it, while he marvelled long and was in perplexity, Paul came about the ninth hour, when many philosophers and the centurion were standing with Caesar, and stood before them all and said: Caesar, behold, I, Paul, the soldier of God, am not dead, but live in my God. But unto thee shall many evils befall and great punishment, thou wretched man, because thou hast shed unjustly the blood of the righteous, not many days hence. And having so said Paul departed from him. But Nero hearing it and being greatly troubled commanded the prisoners to be loosed, and Patroclus also and Barsabas and them that were with him.



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8.1.6 Subsequent arrest

8.1.6.2 Glimpses of the last days, Pt. 4, Martyrdom X.VII.



X THE MARTYRDOM

VII. And as Paul charged them, Longus and Cestus the centurion went early in the morning and approached with fear unto the grave of Paul. And when they were come thither they saw two men praying, and Paul betwixt them, so that they beholding the wondrous marvel were amazed, but Titus and Luke being stricken with the fear of man when they saw Longus and Cestus coming toward them, turned to flight. But they pursued after them, saying: We pursue you not for death but for life, that ye may give it unto us, as Paul promised us, whom we saw just now standing betwixt you and praying. And when they heard that, Titus and Luke rejoiced and gave them the seal in the Lord, glorifying the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ (Copt. and glorified the Lord Jesus Christ and all the saints).

Unto whom be glory world without end. Amen.



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- **8.1.6.3 Reconstructing the end of Paul's life**
- ✓ **1. Assumptions:**
 - ✓ a. Historical reliability only for Second Timothy
 - ✓ b. Very limited assertions in church father reliable
 - ✓ c. Obvious legendary nature of apocrypha makes it worthless for history
- ✓ **2. Reconstruction:**
 - ✓ a. Release from Roman imprisonment
 - ✓ b. Resumption of ministry for a period
 - ✓ i. **Doubtful trip to Spain**
 - ✓ ii. **Ministry centered on Aegean Sea region**
 - ✓ c. Paul beheaded reasonably certain



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- **What can we learn from Paul's experience?**
 - ✓ 1. The apocryphal writers adopt the tradition of Paul's death by beheading
 - ✓ 2. They completely become captive to the Roman heroic legendary genre
 - ✓ 3. Their fanciful tales become worthless as sources of historical understanding.
 - ✓ 4. They stand as continual warnings of the dangers of twisting the biblical texts into a modern framework.



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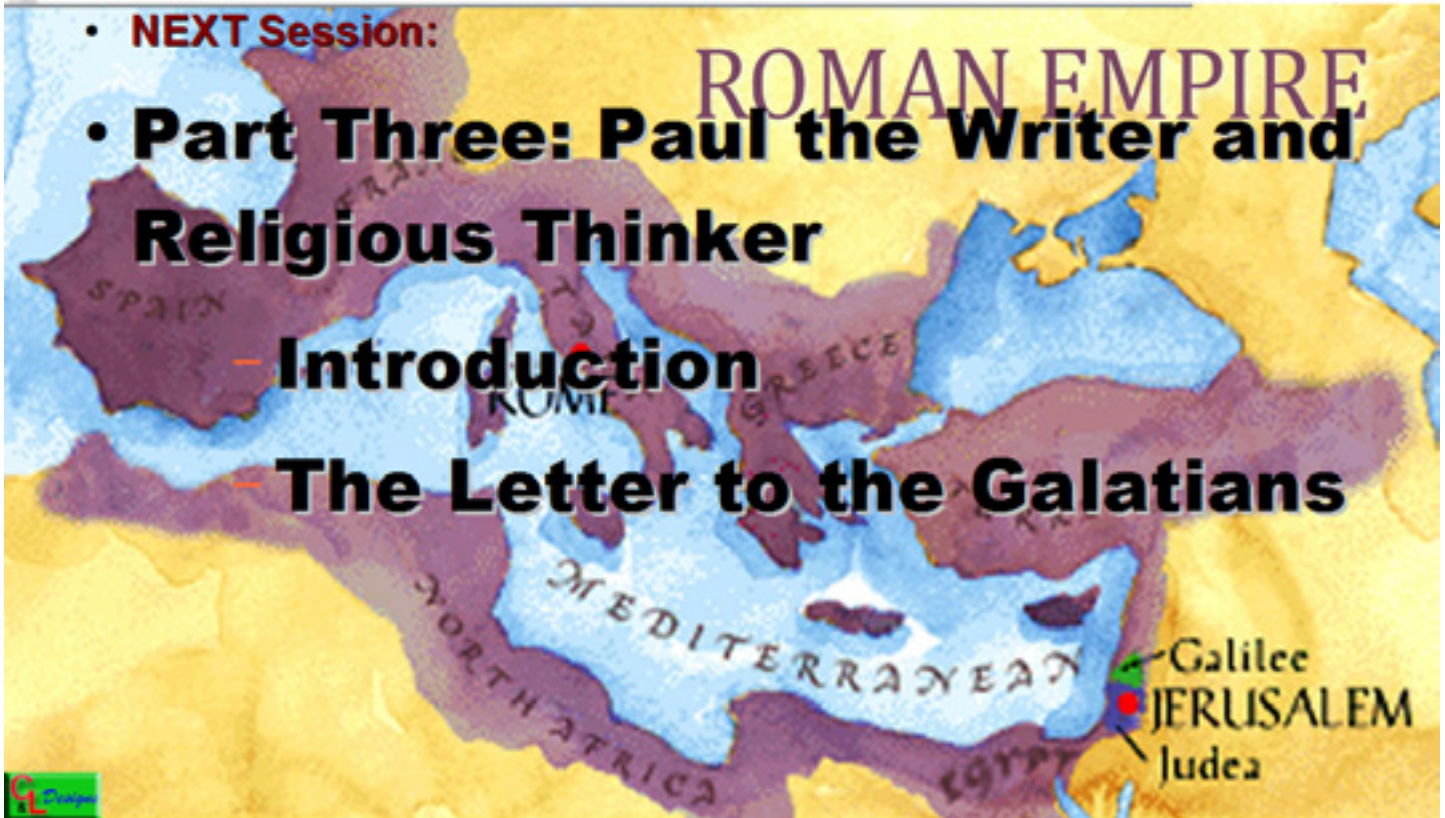
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• **NEXT Session:**

• **Part Three: Paul the Writer and Religious Thinker**

– **Introduction**

– **The Letter to the Galatians**



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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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