Man's Plans & the Providence of God

Acts 22:22-23:35

Sasha & Natasha Tsutserov





God's providence

God's gracious oversight of the universe, and His arrangement of all things for His glory.

R.C. Sproul

God's providence

"The doctrine of Providence means that God does things in your life beyond your knowing that you probably don't understand until later on when you see how God guided you through life."

Tom Nelson

God's providence in Paul's life through the use

Roman citizenship. Acts 22:22-29
 Roman Tribune. 22:30- 23:10
 A vision of Jesus. 23:11
 A nephew. 23:12-35



²² Up to this word they listened to him. Then they raised their voices and said, "Away with such a fellow from the earth! For he should not be allowed to live."²³ And as they were shouting and throwing off their cloaks and flinging dust into the air,

Acts 22:22-23

Roman citizenship.

²⁴ the tribune ordered him to be brought into the barracks, saying that he should be examined by flogging, to find out why they were shouting against him like this.

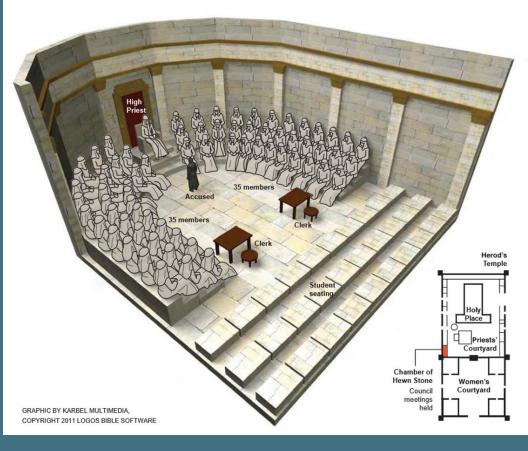
Roman citizenship.

²⁵ But when they had stretched him out for the whips, Paul said to the centurion who was standing by, "Is it lawful for you to flog a man who is a Roman citizen and uncondemned?" ²⁶ When the centurion heard this, he went to the tribune and said to him, "What are you about to do? For this man is a Roman citizen."

²⁷ So the tribune came and said to him, "Tell me, are you a Roman citizen?" And he said, "Yes." ²⁸ The tribune answered, "I bought this citizenship for a large sum." Paul said, "But I am a citizen by birth."²⁹ So those who were about to examine him withdrew from him immediately, and the tribune also was afraid, for he realized that Paul was a Roman citizen and that he had bound him.

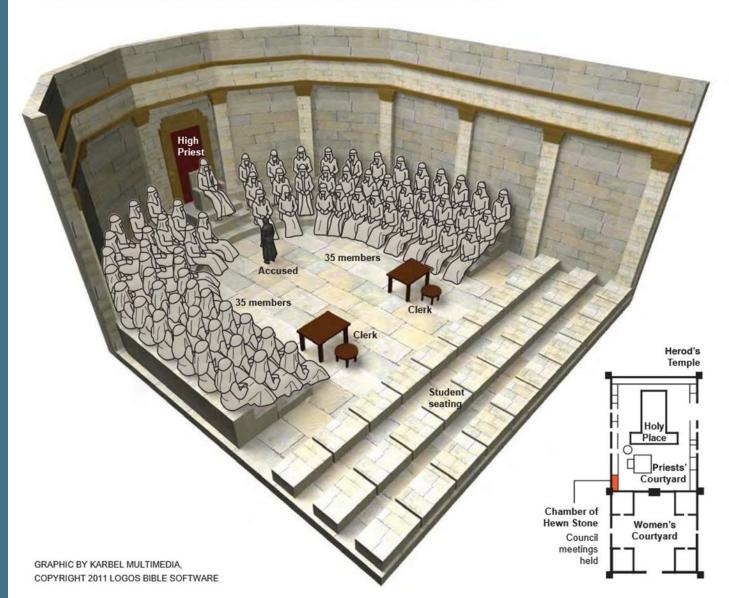
³⁰ But on the next day, desiring to know the real reason why he was being accused by the Jews, he unbound him and commanded the chief priests and all the council to meet, and he brought Paul down and set him before them.

The Sanhedrin



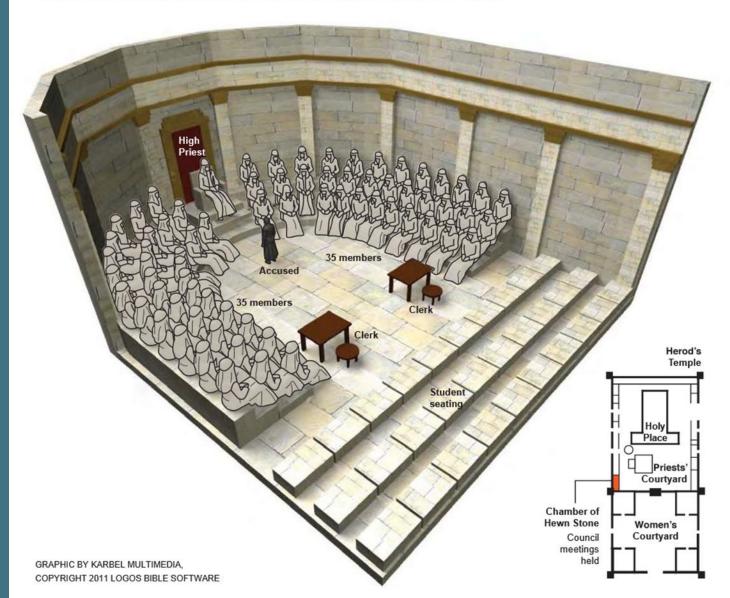
¹And looking intently at the council, Paul said, "Brothers, I have lived my life before God in all good conscience up to this day."

The Sanhedrin



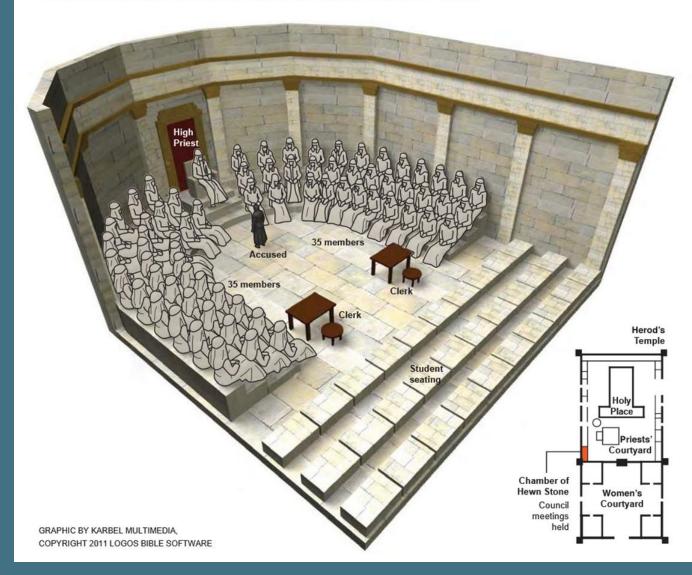
² And the high priest Ananias commanded those who stood by him to strike him on the mouth.

The Sanhedrin



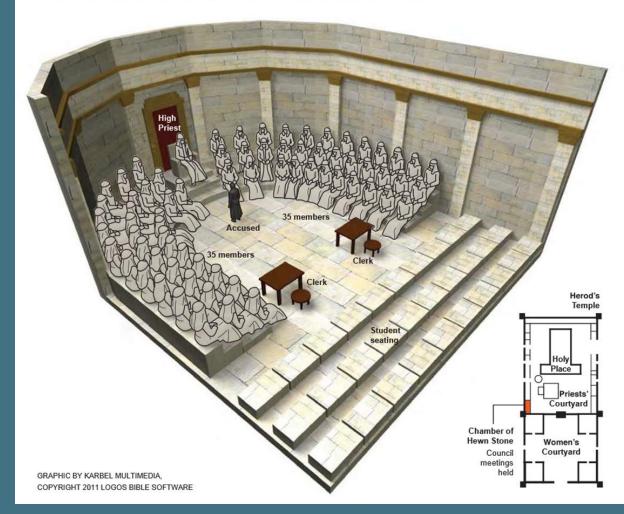
³ Then Paul said to him, "God is going to strike you, you whitewashed wall! Are you sitting to judge me according to the law, and yet contrary to the law you order me to be struck?"

The Sanhedrin



⁴ Those who stood by said, "Would you revile God's high priest?" 5 And Paul said, "I did not know, brothers, that he was the high priest, for it is written, 'You shall not speak evil of a ruler of your people.'

The Sanhedrin



Speak truth with respect and restraint.

... When reviled, we bless; when persecuted, we endure; ¹³ when slandered, we entreat. 1 Corinthians 4:12b–13a

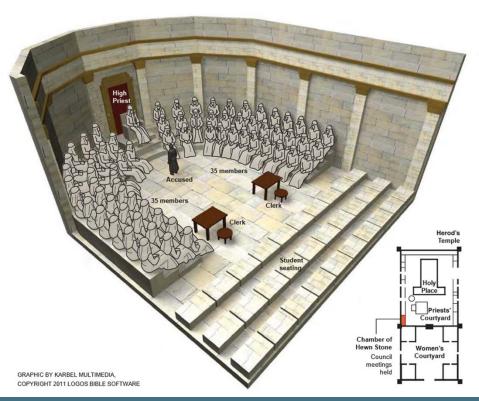
Speak truth with respect and restraint.

Servants, be subject to your masters with all respect, not only to the good and gentle but also to the unjust.²³ When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly.

1 Peter 2:18 & 23

⁶ Now when Paul perceived that one part were Sadducees and the other Pharisees, he cried out in the council, "Brothers, I am a Pharisee, a son of Pharisees. It is with respect to the hope and the resurrection of the dead that I am on trial."

The Sanhedrin



¹⁰ And when the dissension became violent, the tribune, afraid that Paul would be torn to pieces by them, commanded the soldiers to go down and take him away from among them by force and bring him into the barracks.

Jesus standing by him.

¹¹The following night the Lord stood by him and said, "Take courage, for as you have testified to the facts about me in Jerusalem, so you must testify also in Rome."

God's providence in Paul's life

Roman citizenship delivers from a flogging.
Roman Tribune delivers from Council.
A vision of Jesus brings assurance.
A nephew & a tribune deliver from a plot to kill. 23:12-35

Josef Tson





May we be at peace, take comfort, and trust in the sovereign and providential hand of God.