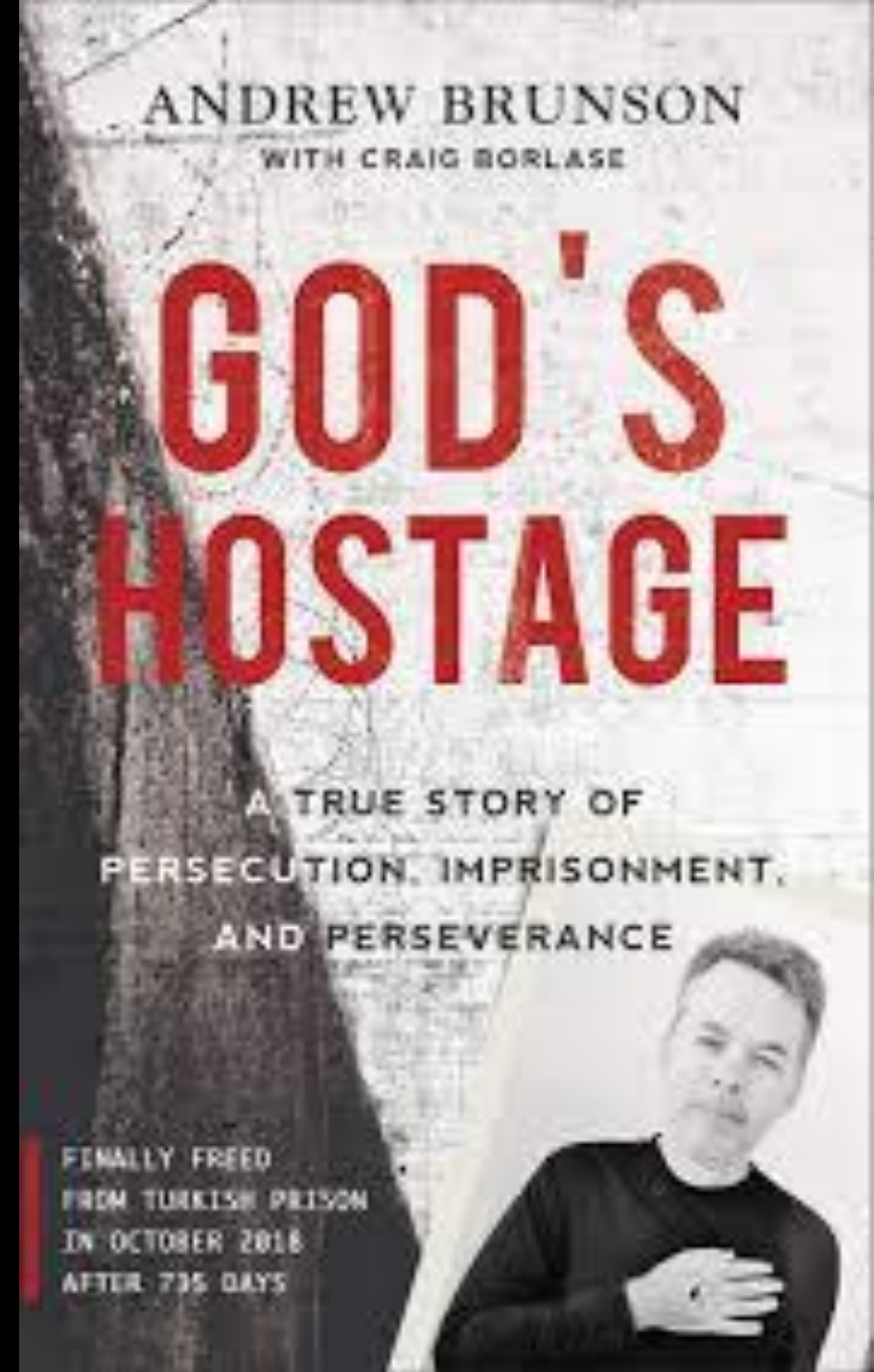




Responding Christ like
when Treated Unjustly

Acts 24:1-27

Andrew Brunson





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PAUL'S THIRD MISSIONARY JOURNEY

- City
- One of the "Seven Churches" (Rev. 2-3)
- ← Paul's route





Paul is imprisoned at Herod's Praetorium; defense before Felix, Festus, and Agrippa II

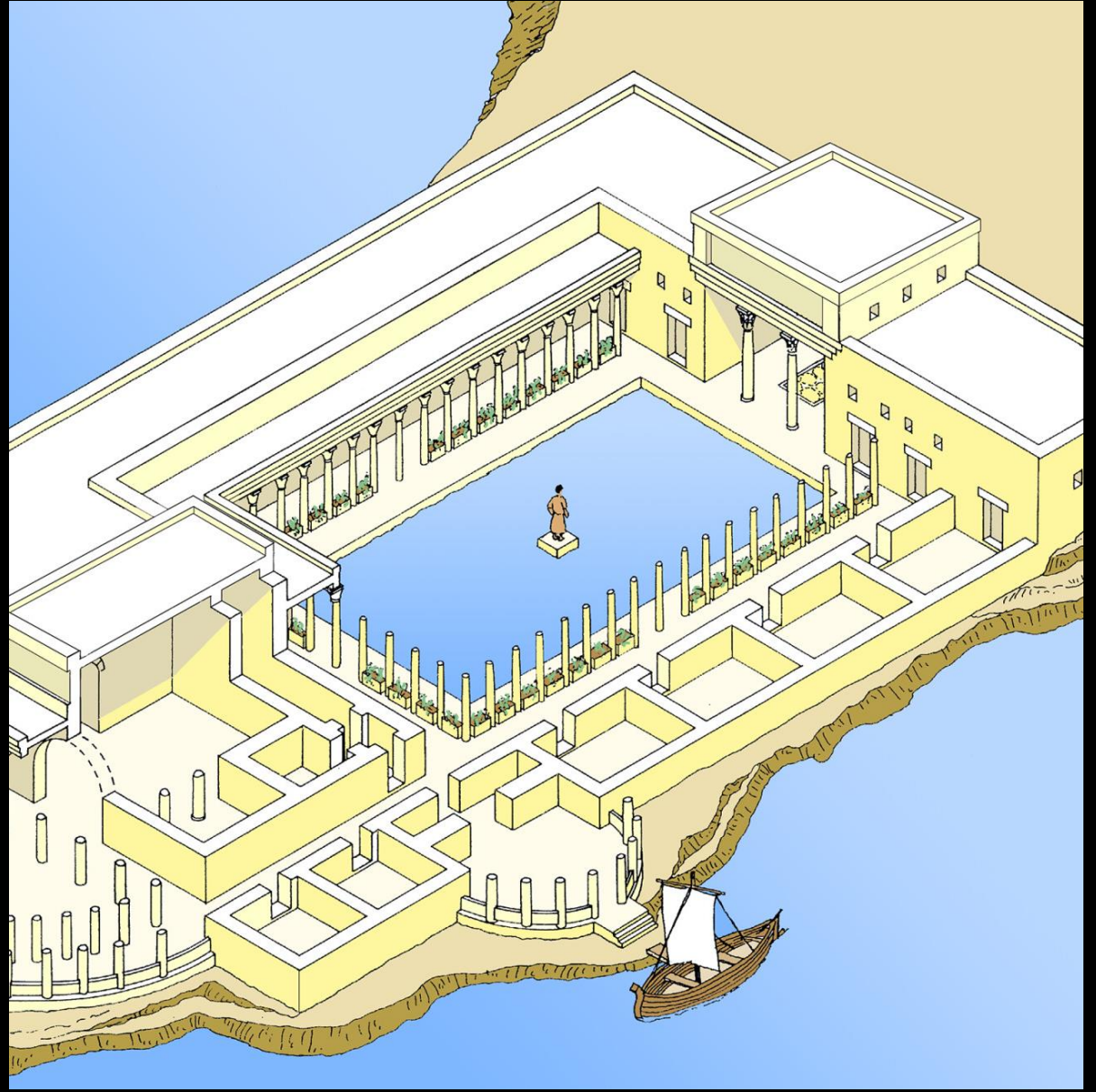
Paul and his Roman Guard overnight

Under heavy Roman guard, Paul is sent to Caesarea

Paul arrested in the temple precinct

Paul's defense before the Sanhedrin

W N
 Coastal plain
 Joppa
 Lydda
 Shephelah
 Emmaus (Nicolopolis)
 Antipatris (Aphek)
 Ephraim (Ophrah)
 Jerusalem
 Mt. of Olives
 Bethlehem
 Jericho
 Western Mountains
 Mt. Gerizim
 Mt. Ebal
 Neapolis (Shechem)
 Alexandrium
 Jordan River
 DEAD SEA
 SAMARIA
 Caesarea Maritima
 E S



Acts 24

- 1) The False Charges. 1-9
- 2) The Glad Defense. 10-21
- 3) The Long Wait. 22-27

The False Charges.

¹And after five days the high priest Ananias came down with some elders and a spokesman, one Tertullus. They laid before the governor their case against Paul.

The False Charges.

²And when he had been summoned, Tertullus began to accuse him, saying: “Since through you we enjoy much peace, and since by your foresight, most excellent Felix, reforms are being made for this nation, ³in every way and everywhere we accept this with all gratitude.

The False Charges.

⁴But, to detain you no further, I beg you in your kindness to hear us briefly. ⁵For we have found this man a plague, one who stirs up riots among all the Jews throughout the world and is a ringleader of the sect of the Nazarenes. ⁶He even tried to profane the temple, but we seized him.

The False Charges.

⁸By examining him yourself you will be able to find out from him about everything of which we accuse him.” ⁹The Jews also joined in the charge, affirming that all these things were so.

Be prepared for opposition not surprised about it.

¹⁹ If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. ²⁰ Remember the word that I said to you: 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you. If they kept my word, they will also keep yours. John 15:19–20

Be prepared for opposition not surprised about it.

¹² Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³ But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed. 1 Peter 4:12–13

The Glad Defense.

¹⁰And when the governor had nodded to him to speak, Paul replied: “Knowing that for many years you have been a judge over this nation, I cheerfully make my defense.

The Glad Defense.

¹¹You can verify that it is not more than twelve days since I went up to worship in Jerusalem,

¹²and they did not find me disputing with anyone or stirring up a crowd, either in the temple or in the synagogues or in the city.

¹³Neither can they prove to you what they now bring up against me.

The Glad Defense.

¹⁴But this I confess to you, that according to the Way, which they call a sect, I worship the God of our fathers, believing everything laid down by the Law and written in the Prophets,
¹⁵having a hope in God, which these men themselves accept, that there will be a resurrection of both the just and the unjust.

The Glad Defense.

¹⁶So I always take pains to have a clear conscience toward both God and man.

The Glad Defense.

¹⁷Now after several years I came to bring alms to my nation and to present offerings. ¹⁸While I was doing this, they found me purified in the temple, without any crowd or tumult. But some Jews from Asia— ¹⁹they ought to be here before you and to make an accusation, should they have anything against me.

The Glad Defense.

²⁰Or else let these men themselves say what wrongdoing they found when I stood before the council, ²¹other than this one thing that I cried out while standing among them: ‘It is with respect to the resurrection of the dead that I am on trial before you this day.’ ”

Stay calm & tell the truth as you rely on the Spirit.

¹⁶So I always take pains to have a clear conscience toward both God and man.

Stay calm & tell the truth as you rely on the Spirit.

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, ...” Acts 1:8

²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

²³ gentleness, self-control; ... Galatians 5:22–23a

The Long Wait.

²²But Felix, having a rather accurate knowledge of the Way, put them off, saying, “When Lysias the tribune comes down, I will decide your case.”

The Long Wait.

²³Then he gave orders to the centurion that he should be kept in custody but have some liberty, and that none of his friends should be prevented from attending to his needs.

²⁴After some days Felix came with his wife Drusilla, who was Jewish, and he sent for Paul and heard him speak about faith in Christ Jesus.

*Look for the opportunity to show & share
Christ awaiting his ultimate justice.*

²⁵And as he reasoned about righteousness and self-control and the coming judgment, ...

*Look for the opportunity to show & share
Christ awaiting his ultimate justice.*

²⁵And as he reasoned about righteousness and self-control and the coming judgment, Felix was alarmed and said, “Go away for the present. When I get an opportunity I will summon you.”

Look for the opportunity to show & share Christ awaiting his ultimate justice.

²⁶At the same time he hoped that money would be given him by Paul. So he sent for him often and conversed with him. ²⁷When two years had elapsed, Felix was succeeded by Porcius Festus. And desiring to do the Jews a favor, Felix left Paul in prison.

Paul knew he was being done wrong...

- But he was not surprised about it.
- He stayed calm and told the truth relying on the Spirit.
- And he lived out the mission where God had him.