

Acts 28:17-31

FOLLOWING THE MESSAGE

- 1) 28:17 Paul had the difficult task of explaining why he was a prisoner and of defending his innocence, without alienating the Jews.
- 2) 28:18 Just as Paul was not guilty of any crime, he was also innocent of any ill intent toward the Jews. He wanted one thing from the Jews: that they would come to know Jesus.
- 3) 28:20 The “hope of Israel” is the coming of Messiah, the resurrection, and the Kingdom associated with His coming.
- 4) 28:23 For millennia the Jews had looked for the restoration of God’s kingdom in a renewed Israel. Paul explained to them, through an exposition of the Old Testament, that this had already occurred in Jesus.
- 5) 28:23 To talk of the Kingdom of God means telling the good news that God calls sinners who are hopelessly trapped in the realm of death to enter the realm of salvation and life through Jesus.
- 6) 28:24 There was always a sharp division between those hearing Paul’s witness: some believed, others resisted.
- 7) 28:24 Belief in Jesus as the only acceptable payment for sin is every man’s responsibility, but it is never forced.
- 8) 28:25 In every instance in Acts where a scriptural quote is introduced by reference to the Holy Spirit, the Spirit is described as having spoken (1:16; 4:25). In this way, the Word is shown to be a “living” Word.
- 9) 28:26 The words constitute a prophecy of stubbornness. The picture is of a people who merely take in sensory observations but in no way appropriate them.

10) 28:27 How the Gospel—foreshadowed in the Scriptures, fulfilled in the Messiah, proclaimed by men like Paul—would be embraced not by the Jews but primarily by the Gentiles is only understood because of Israel’s willful act of rejecting Jesus. Because of continual unbelief, she became unable to believe (John 12:37, 39–40).

11) 28:30 Rome put no obstacle in the way of Paul’s testimony to the gospel, which was evidence to the fact that Rome found nothing subversive in his message.

The Gospel reveals Salvation-

- It represents mankind as entirely lost and living in a Fallen World, personally *lost in Sin*
- It represents Jesus as taking on our humanity, to obey the ‘Law’ which we had broken
- It represents Jesus as enduring the penalty which we deserve (Death)
- It represents Jesus as defeating sin and death, and Rising again as confirmation!!

AND, it declares, that all who come to Jesus, relying completely on Him *will be acceptable to GOD*

This is Truth - the only ground for our justification before a Holy God, is the all-sufficient righteousness of Jesus.

The church’s source of power has not changed: the Holy Spirit.
The church’s message has not changed: the gospel of Jesus Christ.
The church’s priorities have not changed: to teach the Word to those who know Christ, and to preach the gospel to those who do not.

TODAY’S SONGS

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