



The Power and Persuasion of Personal Testimony

(Acts 21:27 – 22:29)

Study Notes Handout: Nov. 5th

The God of our fathers has chosen you to know His will and to see the Righteous One and to hear words from His mouth. You will be his witness to all men of what you have seen and heard.

- Acts 22:14

The secular testimony is focused on the self --- how it arrived despite the obstacles on the road. The Christian testimony is focused on the Person, that Great Obstacle in our wandering path --- that Brilliant Light who kicked us off our horse and blinded us, and calls us to repent and be baptized, and commissions us on His great work, and even tells us we will suffer for His sake. This is Christian testimony.

- Jordan Monson

The Five Solas: Celebrating 500 years since the Protestant Reformation.

- *Sola Fide - We are saved through faith alone in Jesus Christ, not by our good works.*
- *Sola Scriptura - We follow as our highest authority the Bible alone, not Church Tradition.*
- *Solus Christus - We are redeemed by the mediation of Jesus Christ alone, no one else.*
- *Sola Gratia - We are saved by the grace of God alone, not by our human merit.*
- *Soli Deo Gloria - We live for the glory of God alone. He is supreme in all things.*

The Message of God's Grace in Christ:

1. The Message can be Mixed --- Is the Gospel enough? (21:20 - 26)
2. The Message can be Muddled --- Is the Gospel against us? (21:27 - 29; 24:5 - 16)
3. The Message can be Muted --- Is the Gospel being heard? (22:22 - 25)
4. The Message can be Magnified --- Is the Gospel our Testimony? (22:14 - 16)

Questions for Reflection & Discussion:

- How could the 'Five Solas' be used as a personal and devotional exercise in your life?
- How do we mix the message today and communicate that the gospel is not enough?
- How is the gospel 'against us' (21:28) and how is it for us?
- What keeps people from hearing the gospel and / or our testimony today?
- What are the key ingredients of a good testimony?



Study and Discussion Questions

Acts 21:27 – 22:29

Explore It

1. Why were the temple gates shut? ([21:30-31](#))
2. How did the commander and his soldiers save Paul's life? ([21:32](#))
3. Why did the commander order that Paul be taken away and beaten? ([22:24](#))

Get It

4. Why were the Jews from Asia so angry at Paul?
5. What groups are particularly anti-Christian today?
6. How did Paul show respect to his audience?
7. Why is it important to be kind toward and respectful of others?
8. What was wrong with the Jewish unwillingness to lead Gentiles to God?

Apply It

9. What "false reports" about Christianity can you help dispel? How?
10. With whom can you share your personal story of faith this week?
11. What do you want to remember the next time you have to deal with a difficult person?