

Opportunities for the Gospel **Acts 24:1-27**

Main Point:

Knowing it could eventually be too late, don't waste an opportunity to proclaim or respond to the gospel.

1. God gives you opportunities to proclaim the gospel.
2. When He does, you should always take advantage of them.
3. God also gives you opportunities to respond to the gospel.
4. When He does, you should never procrastinate.

Simon Kistemaker "Tertullus characterizes Paul as a seditious person who imperils the Roman state."

Derek Thomas "The temple might dismiss 'the Way' as a sect, a pestilence that needed to be eradicated, quickly and decisively. But for Paul ... what he believed concerning Jesus Christ and the resurrection was entirely what the Jews ought to have believed; it was what the Old Testament had predicted."

John 5:46 46 For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me; for he wrote about Me. (NKJV)

2 Corinthians 5:10 10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things *done* in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad. (NKJV)

Dennis Johnson "Although the charges against Paul were untrue and his captivity undeserved, instead of wallowing in self-pity he exploited them as opportunities to speak for King Jesus."

Derek Thomas "Paul's reasoning about righteousness would have exposed Felix's unrighteousness."

Galatians 3:24 24 Therefore the law was our tutor *to bring us* to Christ, that we might be justified by faith. (NKJV)

Acts 17:30-31 30 Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent, 31 because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained ... (NKJV)

Dennis Johnson "Felix's preferred response to life-challenging truth and costly decisions was procrastination. It did not serve him well in the end."

J.C. Ryle "Do you think that you will have a more convenient time to think about these things? So thought Felix and the Athenians to whom Paul preached, but it never came. The road to hell is paved with such ideas ... Run no risk when your soul is at stake."

Psalms 95:7-8 7 ... Today, if you will hear His voice: 8 "Do not harden your hearts, as in the rebellion ... (NKJV)

2 Corinthians 6:2 2 ... Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation. (NKJV)