

Paul's Apologetic

Acts 22:1-29

PART ONE

Introduction

The apostle Paul's first of six defenses of the Christian faith.

"Brothers and fathers, hear the defense that I now make before you." 22:1

A Manifestation of God's Sovereignty in the Proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ:

I. Paul's Credentials – vv1-5

God sovereignly creates.

II. Paul's Conversion – vv6-11

God sovereignly elects

III. Paul's Contact – vv12-16

God sovereignly connects

IV. Paul's Commission – vv17-21

God sovereignly directs

V. Paul's Conflict – vv22-29

God sovereignly protects

I. Paul's Credentials – vv1-5

God sovereignly creates.

Ephesians 2:10

"For we are" a present, active, indicative.

"his workmanship" Gk *poiema*

"created in Christ Jesus for good works"

John 15:5, 8

Titus 2:11-14

"which God prepare beforehand"

Jeremiah 1:5

Isaiah 49:1-6

Galatians 1:15-16

v2

"Hebrew language" Aramaic

v3

"I am a Jew"

Philippians 3:4-6

"born in Tarsus in Cilicia"

"educated at the feet of Gamaliel"

Acts 5:34

Acts 26:4

"according to the strict manner of the law of our fathers"

Here Paul continues to make unmistakable identification with them, further establishing his credibility.

Acts 26:5

"zealous for God as all of you are this day"

v4

"this Way"

"to the death"

Acts 26:10

Acts 8:3

Religious zealotry does not discriminate!

v5

"high priest"

"the whole council"

Acts 9:1-2

"He who used to persecute us is now preaching the faith he once tried to destroy." Galatians 1:23

II. Paul's Conversion – vv6-11

God sovereignly elects.

Cp. Acts 9:3-8

True conversion always results in a desire to know how the Lord who saved you would have you live.

Luke 3:7-8

Luke 3:10-14

Acts 26:19-20

"Who are you Lord?" and *"What shall I do?"* must necessarily go together.

1 John 1:1, 3

What is your response to Paul's first question, and do you follow it with the second?