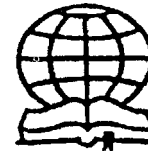


# Christadelphian Bible Mission

## The Acts of the Apostles



### Please begin by reading - Acts Chapter 19

#### Questions - Acts Chapter 19

- Q19.1 Copy out this passage filling in the blanks as you do so. You may need to put more than one word for some blanks.
- Paul came to \_\_\_\_\_ and found \_\_\_\_\_ (how many?) disciples who had been baptised but did not know about Jesus. They were then \_\_\_\_\_ in the name of \_\_\_\_\_. Paul laid his \_\_\_\_\_ on them and they were able to \_\_\_\_\_.
- Q19.2 Paul did some wonderful miracles. What happened when the sons of Sceva tried to copy Paul?
- Q19.3 What did Demetrius make?
- Q19.4 Why was he annoyed with Paul?
- Q19.5 Who or what was Diana?
- Q19.6 Are there any idols which people worship today?
- Q19.7 Does God want us to worship idols?
- Q19.8 Write out the first two of the ten commandments (Exodus chapter 20).

A point to note:

Asia (verses 10, 22, 26 and 31). This is not the continent of Asia as we know it but the Roman province of Asia. Today, it is called Turkey.

### Please begin by reading - Acts Chapter 20

#### Questions - Acts Chapter 20

Verse 7 says: "Upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread."

- Q20.1 a What is meant by "to break bread"? What did they do and why?
- b On which day did they do this, Saturday or Sunday?



Acts 20:7

Some people think, Christians should always meet on a Saturday because this is the Jewish sabbath. We do not keep the sabbath because:

- (i) We do not have to keep the Law of Moses (see chapters 6 and 15)
- (ii) We can break bread on any day - see Acts 2:46, Romans 14:5, Colossians 2:16.

In this chapter (and it would seem in 1 Corinthians 16:2), we are told the disciples met on the first day of the week, that is, SUNDAY. Christadelphians usually break bread each Sunday, but occasionally break bread on other days.

Q20.2 Why didn't Paul want to go to Ephesus?

A point to note (verse 16):

Pentecost was another Jewish feast, held seven weeks after Passover. Jesus was crucified during the Feast of Passover and the Holy Spirit came upon the Apostles seven weeks later, on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2:1).

#### PAUL'S SPEECH TO THE PEOPLE OF EPHESUS

Paul says a lot about himself and how he behaved when he was at Ephesus to show how a leader should behave, and to try and stop them following false teachers. (verse 29).

Q20.3 How did Paul serve the Lord (verse 19)?

Q20.4 What did he teach them (verses 20, 21, 25)?

Q20.5 Why would they see his face no more?

Q20.6 What do verses 33-35 tell us about Paul?

Q20.7 What was the Word of God able to do (verse 32)?

## Please begin by reading - Acts Chapter 21

### Questions - Acts Chapter 21

We have read about this Philip before in chapters 6 and 8.

Q21.1 What do you know about him from these passages?

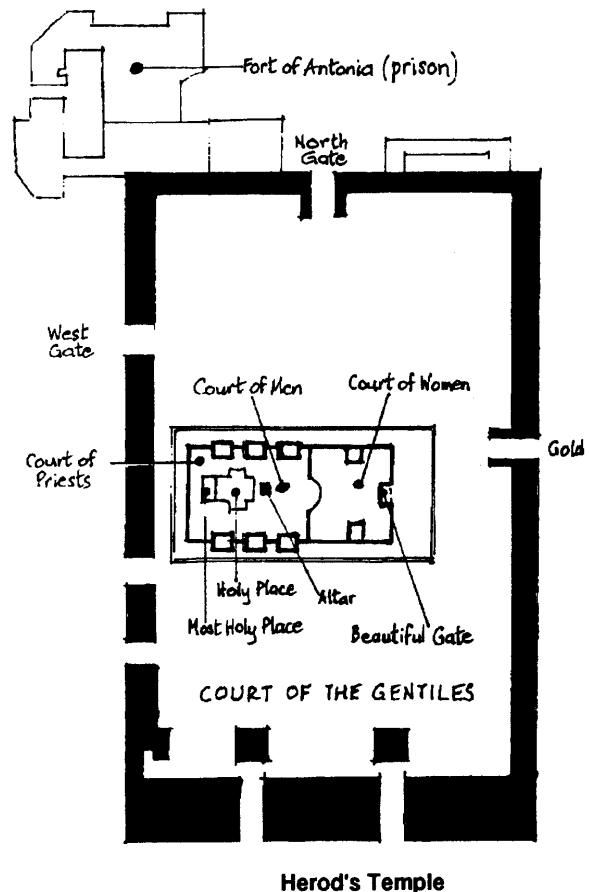
Q21.2 What were the disciples warning Paul about?

Q21.3 What did Paul think about their warnings?

A point to note

Disciples who were inspired by God gave warnings to Paul, speaking "through the Spirit" as in chapter 20:23 and 21:11. These warnings were true but Paul was more interested in serving God than saving himself.

The Jews at Jerusalem still thought the Law given to Moses was very important and some had set up false stories about Paul saying that he was teaching Jews in other countries to ignore Moses' Law. Paul did not mind if the Jewish Christians continued their interest in Moses' Law as long as they realised that it was not essential for salvation.



The Apostles at Jerusalem wanted Paul to show the Jews that he was not against Moses. There were four men who were under a vow, and according to the Law of Moses they had to offer a sacrifice to finish their vow. Paul agreed to pay for their sacrifices and in this way he would show some respect for the Law. It was hoped this might help the Jewish Christians at Jerusalem to accept Paul.

However, the Jews had seen him with Trophimus, who was a Gentile, and thought (wrongly) that Paul had taken this Gentile into the Temple (where only Jews were allowed).

Q21.4 Then what happened?

## Please begin by reading - Acts Chapter 22

The Jews thought Paul was against their faith, so Paul in his speech says:

- a. He was a Jew as well (verse 3).
- b. He was brought up in Jerusalem (the centre of Jewish worship).
- c. He was taught by Gamaliel (a most respected teacher of the Law).
- d. He was zealous towards God, just as they were, even to the extent of persecuting believers of Jesus.

Notice that even when Paul was persecuting Christians he thought he was doing what God wanted (verses 3,4). He was completely sincere in what he did - and yet he did wrong. This is a warning to us. To be sincere is not enough. We must find out from the Bible what God wants us to do.

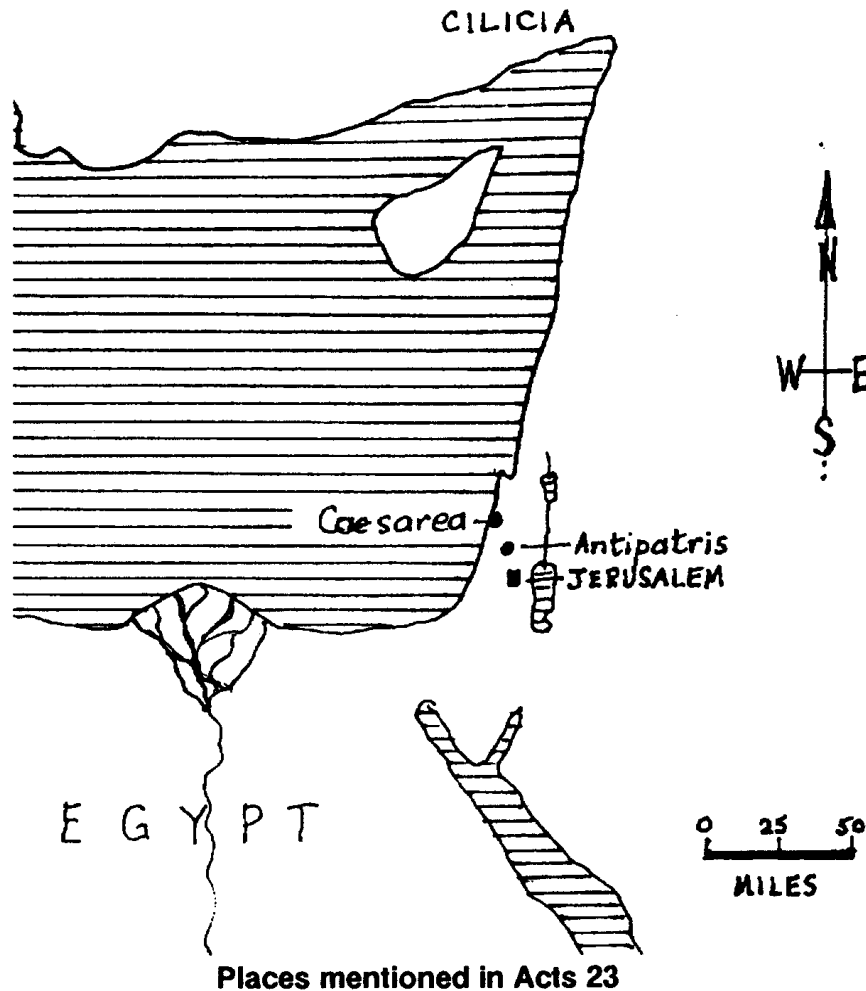
## Questions - Acts Chapter 22

- Q22.1 Who spoke to Paul and made him realise he was doing wrong?
- Q22.2 What did he need to wash away?
- Q22.3 How did he do this?
- Q22.4 While Paul was praying in the Temple whom did he see (and who spoke to him)?
- Q22.5 a What did Paul say that made the Jewish crowd really angry?  
b Why did this make them angry?

Note:

1. Damascus (verse 6) is still in the news. It is the capital of Syria.
2. Verses 8, 14, 18-21 show that Jesus Christ was alive, and was still working in the lives of the Apostles, even though he had gone to heaven.
3. In verse 3 Paul says he is a Jew. In verse 25 he claims to be a Roman. He was a Jew because his parents were Jews. He was a Roman because he was born in Tarsus, a Roman city.
4. Verse 20 - Paul not only looked after the clothes of those who stoned Stephen (see chapter 7:58), but also agreed with what they were doing. So it says he was "consenting" to his death (chapter 8:1).
5. A Roman scourging or whipping was very cruel indeed and caused the death of many. They used leather strips into which pieces of metal were sewn. Paul had already been beaten by the crowd (chapter 21:32), so he told them he was a freeborn Roman citizen, and so avoided further torture. The chief captain had bought his freedom and was afraid that he would be punished for what he had already done to Paul.

## Please begin by reading - Acts Chapter 23



### PAUL BEFORE THE SANHEDRIN (THE COUNCIL) IN JERUSALEM

Ananias the high priest was a wicked man and Paul was right to call him a whited wall. Look at Matthew 23, especially verse 27, where Jesus used similar words about the leaders of the Jews. They, and particularly the high priest, should have been teaching the people right things and showing a good example in their lives. Instead they were evil but pretended to be good. (They were hypocrites). They were so wicked that they took part in a plot to kill Paul. (Ananias the high priest is different from the Ananias in chapter 22:12).

### Questions - Acts Chapter 23

- Q23.1 What do YOU believe?
- a Is there a resurrection of the dead?
  - b If there is, when is it?
  - c Are there such things as angels?
  - d If so, what do they do?
  - e Do we have an immortal soul?
  - f What happens when we die?

Q23.2 After the uproar, what did Jesus say to Paul as he stood by him?

Q23.3 When Claudias Lysias wrote to Felix (the Governor of Judea), what did he say about Paul? (Did he think he had done anything wrong)?

Some points of interest

1. When it says "The Lord stood by Paul" (verse 11), this would be an angel. Angels are often referred to in this way (see Exodus 23:20,21).
2. Caesarea (verse 23) was a city on the coast, named after the Roman Emperor, Augustus Caesar. It was the most important city in Judea, and the Governor lived there.

## **Please begin by reading - Acts Chapter 24**

Questions - Acts Chapter 24

Q24.1 Had Paul stirred up trouble?

Q24.2 In verse 14 Paul says he believes all things written in the Law and the Prophets. What does he mean by this?

Q24.3 In verse 15 he says there will be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust. What does this mean?

VERSE 25

Paul taught Felix about righteousness. We can only be righteous when our sins are removed by baptism. We must then live a life of self-control (temperance).

Q24.4 When will God judge the world?

Q24.5 What effect did Paul's teaching have on Felix?

Felix was the Roman in charge of that area. He was married to Drusilla, who had been brought up in the Jewish religion. Felix was a wicked man and had hoped to get money from Paul, but after two years Caesar removed Felix and put Festus in his place.

## **Please begin by reading - Acts Chapter 25**

Questions - Acts Chapter 25

Festus soon started to sort out Paul's case.

Q25.1 Why did the Jews want Paul to go back to Jerusalem?

Q25.2 What did Festus tell them?

When accused by the Jews, Paul told them that he had done nothing against the Law, the Temple or against Caesar. Since Festus was now in the position of Governor and wanted to get on well with the Jews, he agreed that Paul could be tried at Jerusalem, Paul did not want this and so he appealed to Caesar. This was not what Festus or the Jews wanted, but it was Paul's right as a Roman citizen. Paul knew it would mean a long journey to Rome, but it would give him an opportunity to preach the Gospel (Acts 19:21; 23:11; Romans 1:15).

Note:

Agrippa was one of the Herod family and king of some of Palestine. He had been brought up in the Jewish religion.

His sister, Bernice, had already been married twice and was now Agrippa's mistress - not a very good example!  
(Bernice was also Drusilla's sister.)

More Questions - Acts Chapter 25

Q25.3 What did Festus tell King Agrippa about Paul in verses 18 and 19?

Q25.4 Why did Festus want King Agrippa to hear Paul?

Notice that, although Paul was being wrongly accused he did not get angry or violent. This is how the Lord Jesus behaved when he was on trial and how we should behave if we are wrongly accused.

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Please return your answers to:

Please include your reference number which is: \_\_\_\_\_