

## Power to Witness in Word and Deed —Part 2

*The Book of Acts*

**Acts 28:17–31**

### Read Acts 28:17–31.

1. After only three days in Rome, Paul meets with the leaders of the Jewish community. In verses 17–20, how does Paul summarize...
  - a. what happened with the Jewish leadership in Jerusalem?
  - b. what happened with the Roman officials in Jerusalem?
  - c. his own perspective on these events?
2. What surprising information is revealed in verse 21?
3. What difference do you see between the attitude of the Jews in Rome and that of the Jews in Jerusalem? (Compare verses 22–23 with 21:27–31 and 24:5–8.)
4. Paul says that he is in chains because of “the hope of Israel” (v. 20).
  - a. What does Paul mean by the “hope of Israel”? (Lk. 1:67–70; 2:25–32, 36–38; 24:13–27)
  - b. How does God validate the one who is the Hope of Israel? (2:31–36; 5:29–32)
5. Paul took full advantage of this wonderful opportunity to try to convince his listeners to believe in Jesus by teaching from “the Law of Moses and from the Prophets” (v. 23).  
Pick one or more of the following passages and explain how it could be used to show that Jesus is the fulfillment of the Old Testament prophecies.

Micah 5:2

Isaiah 7:14


Zechariah 9:9

Psalm 22:6–8, 16–18

Isaiah 53

Psalm 16:10

2 Samuel 7:12–13

6. Throughout Acts, we have seen this pattern of people's reaction to the preaching of the gospel: "some were convinced...but others would not believe" (v. 24). What does the use of the words "would not" indicate about a person's responsibility upon hearing the gospel?
7. Paul quotes Isaiah 6:9–10.
  - a. How do verses 26–27 summarize Israel's problem? ( \* Rom. 10:1–3)
  - b. What is all of humanity's problem? (Rom. 6:6–18)
8. How do Paul's concluding remarks in verse 28 express the main thrust of the entire book of Acts?
9. In verses 30 and 31 what do we learn about Paul's activities in Rome over the next two years?
10. If you were called upon today to declare "the kingdom of God" (vv. 23, 31), what would you say?
11. Think back over the story that Luke has told in the book of Acts.
  - a. How has Jesus' prophecy in Acts 1:8 been fulfilled over the course of the book?
  - b. How are you a part of this exciting ongoing story?
12. While the human characters are prominent in the book of Acts, the true hero is God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. What have you learned about God as a result of our study in Acts?