

# Acts.

# Parallels between the final journeys to Jerusalem

## JESUS

"Set his face to go to Jerusalem" Luke 9:51

Predicts suffering and death Luke 18:31-33

Peter opposes Jesus for speaking about suffering and death Mark 8:31-33

People praise God when Jesus enters Jerusalem Luke 19:28-40

Jesus causes uproar in Temple Luke 19:45-48

Prays in Garden "Your will be done" Luke 22:42

Taken by Jews, handed over to Romans Luke 23:1

## PAUL

"I am going to Jerusalem, constrained by the Spirit" Acts 20:22

Acknowledges that he will suffer Acts: 20:23

Believers try to stop Paul from going Acts 21:4, 10-12

Believers praise God when Paul comes to Jerusalem Acts 21:17-19

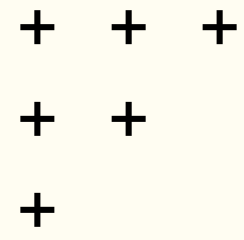
Uproar in Temple over Paul Acts 21:27-30

Disciples pray "The Lord's will be done" Acts 21:14

Taken by Jews handed over to Romans Acts 21:27-36

Christians have developed a respect for Paul — that is second only to reverence for Jesus Christ — over approximately 20 centuries of church history. However, when Luke wrote Acts, Paul was a very controversial figure in the church. Luke seems to have gone out of his way to put Paul in the best possible light, so that his original readers would accept and appreciate his ministry.

- TOM CONSTABLE, "DR. CONSTABLE'S EXPOSITORY NOTES"

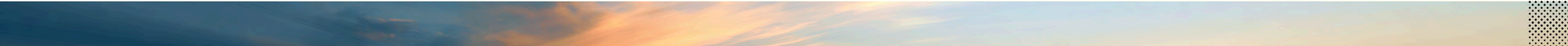


# Journey to Jerusalem

ACTS 21:1-16

# Arrival in Jerusalem

ACTS 21:17-26






# Journey to Jerusalem

ACTS 21:1-16

And when we had parted from them and set sail, we came by a straight course to Cos, and the next day to Rhodes, and from there to Patara.<sup>2</sup> And having found a ship crossing to Phoenicia, we went aboard and set sail.<sup>3</sup> When we had come in sight of Cyprus, leaving it on the left we sailed to Syria and landed at Tyre, for there the ship was to unload its cargo.<sup>4</sup> And having sought out the disciples, we stayed there for seven days. And through the Spirit they were telling Paul not to go on to Jerusalem.<sup>5</sup> When our days there were ended, we departed and went on our journey, and they all, with wives and children, accompanied us until we were outside the city. And kneeling down on the beach, we prayed<sup>6</sup> and said farewell to one another. Then we went on board the ship, and they returned home.

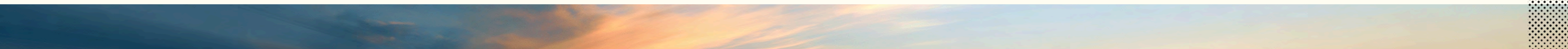





# Journey to Jerusalem

ACTS 21:1-16

When we had finished the voyage from Tyre, we arrived at Ptolemais, and we greeted the brothers and stayed with them for one day. <sup>8</sup> On the next day we departed and came to Caesarea, and we entered the house of Philip the evangelist, who was one of the seven, and stayed with him. <sup>9</sup> He had four unmarried daughters, who prophesied. <sup>10</sup> While we were staying for many days, a prophet named Agabus came down from Judea. <sup>11</sup> And coming to us, he took Paul's belt and bound his own feet and hands and said, "Thus says the Holy Spirit, 'This is how the Jews at Jerusalem will bind the man who owns this belt and deliver him into the hands of the Gentiles.'"






# Journey to Jerusalem

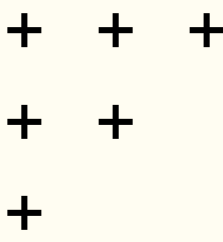
ACTS 21:1-16

When we heard this, we and the people there urged him not to go up to Jerusalem. <sup>13</sup> Then Paul answered, “What are you doing, weeping and breaking my heart? For I am ready not only to be imprisoned but even to die in Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus.” <sup>14</sup> And since he would not be persuaded, we ceased and said, “Let the will of the Lord be done.”

<sup>15</sup> After these days we got ready and went up to Jerusalem.

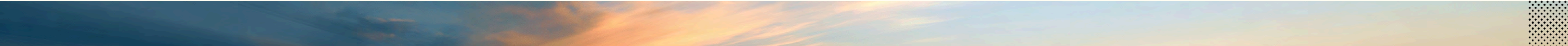
<sup>16</sup> And some of the disciples from Caesarea went with us, bringing us to the house of Mnason of Cyprus, an early disciple, with whom we should lodge.





# Journey to Jerusalem

- **PLACES**
- PEOPLE
- PROPHECIES



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+ +  
+

# Journey to Jerusalem



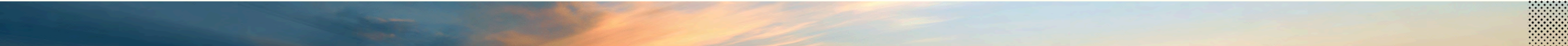
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# Journey to Jerusalem

→ PLACES

→ **PEOPLE**

→ PROPHECIES



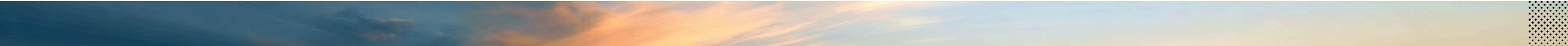
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# Journey to Jerusalem

→ PLACES

→ PEOPLE

→ PROPHECIES





And now, behold, I am going to Jerusalem, constrained by the Spirit, not knowing what will happen to me there,<sup>23</sup> except that **the Holy Spirit testifies to me in every city that imprisonment and afflictions await me.**

ACTS 20:22-23 ESV

And having sought out the disciples, we stayed there for seven days. And **through the Spirit they were telling Paul not to go on to Jerusalem.**

ACTS 21:4 ESV

While we were staying for many days, a prophet named Agabus came down from Judea.<sup>11</sup> And coming to us, he took Paul's belt and bound his own feet and hands and said, **“Thus says the Holy Spirit, ‘This is how the Jews at Jerusalem will bind the man who owns this belt and deliver him into the hands of the Gentiles.’”**

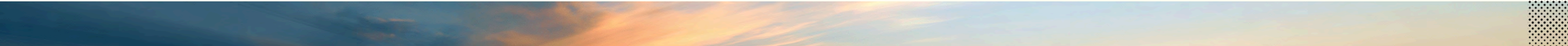
ACTS 21:10-11 ESV

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And having sought out the disciples, we stayed there for seven days.  
And through the Spirit **they were telling Paul not to go on to Jerusalem.**

When we heard this, **we and the people there urged him not to go up to Jerusalem.**

ACTS 21:4,12

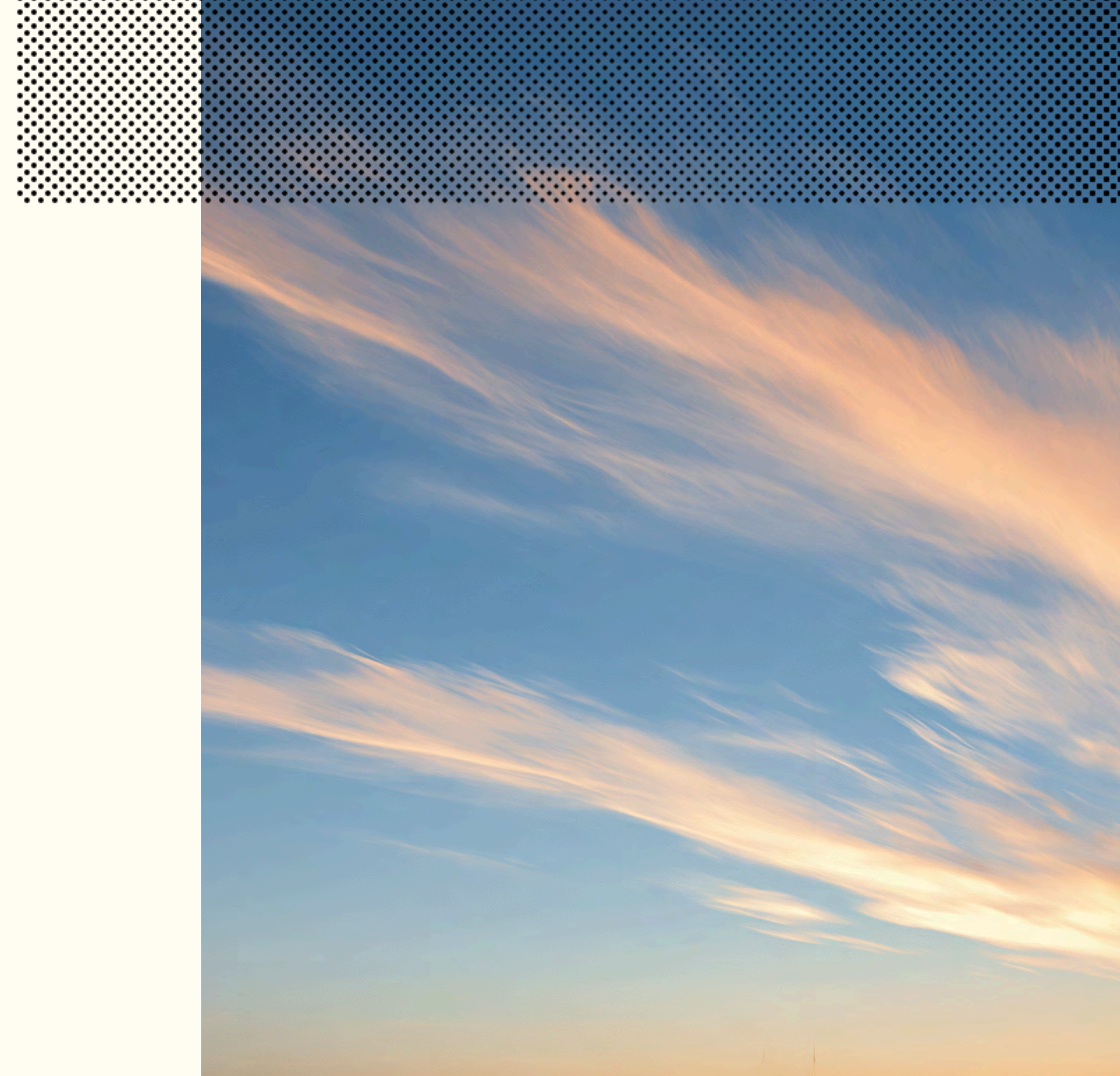


## **TOTAL SURRENDER AND ABSOLUTE TRUST**

**Then Paul answered, “What are you doing, weeping and breaking my heart?  
For I am ready not only to be imprisoned but even to die in Jerusalem for  
the name of the Lord Jesus.”**

**ACTS 21:13**


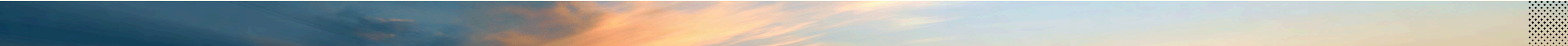
**God is good; therefore, He will  
only want good for my life.**





# What is good?

## GOOD

- SAFETY
  - HEALTH
  - COMFORT
  - PLENTY
  - HAPPINESS
- 
- 




# What is good?

## GOOD

- SAFETY
- HEALTH
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- HAPPINESS

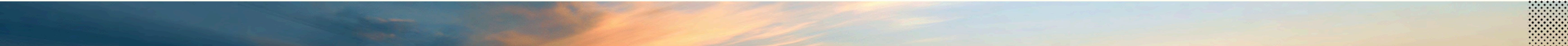
## BAD

- DANGER
  - SICKNESS
  - PAIN/SUFFERING
  - NEED/LACK
  - SADNESS
- 



And since he would not be persuaded, we ceased and said,  
**“Let the will of the Lord be done.”**

ACTS 21:14 ESV



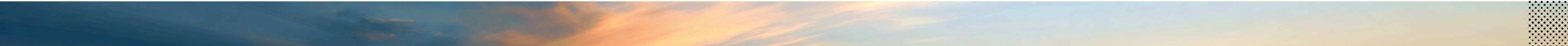


**GOOD**

- SAFETY
- HEALTH
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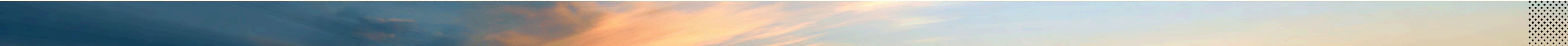
**BAD**

- DANGER
- SICKNESS
- PAIN/SUFFERING
- NEED/LACK
- SADNESS



But I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself,  
**if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from  
the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.**

ACTS 20:24 ESV



# Total surrender and absolute trust require:

- + PROPER PERSPECTIVE
- + CLEAR PURPOSE

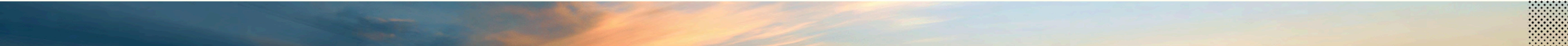





# Arrival in Jerusalem

ACTS 21:17-26

When we had come to Jerusalem, the brothers received us gladly.  
<sup>18</sup> On the following day Paul went in with us to James, and all the elders were present. <sup>19</sup> After greeting them, he related one by one the things that God had done among the Gentiles through his ministry. <sup>20</sup> And when they heard it, they glorified God. And they said to him, “You see, brother, how many thousands there are among the Jews of those who have believed. They are all zealous for the law, <sup>21</sup> and they have been told about you that you teach all the Jews who are among the Gentiles to forsake Moses, telling them not to circumcise their children or walk according to our customs. <sup>22</sup> What then is to be done? They will certainly hear that you have come.






# Arrival in Jerusalem

ACTS 21:17-26

Do therefore what we tell you. We have four men who are under a vow; <sup>24</sup> take these men and purify yourself along with them and pay their expenses, so that they may shave their heads. Thus all will know that there is nothing in what they have been told about you, but that you yourself also live in observance of the law. <sup>25</sup> But as for the Gentiles who have believed, we have sent a letter with our judgment that they should abstain from what has been sacrificed to idols, and from blood, and from what has been strangled, and from sexual immorality.” <sup>26</sup> Then Paul took the men, and the next day he purified himself along with them and went into the temple, giving notice when the days of purification would be fulfilled and the offering presented for each one of them.





# Arrival in Jerusalem

ACTS 21:17-26

## Reception

“When we had come to Jerusalem, the brothers received us gladly.” (v.17)

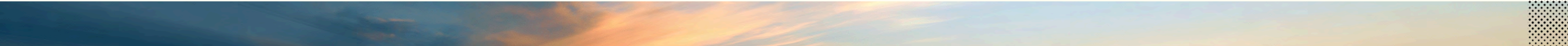
## Report

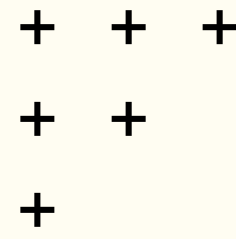
“After greeting them, he related one by one the things that God had done among the Gentiles through his ministry.” (v.19)

## Rejoicing

“And when they heard it, they glorified God.” (v.20)

## Reconciliation



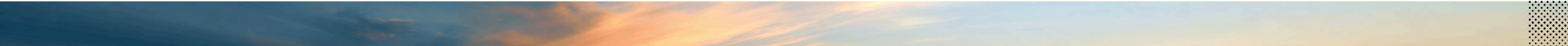


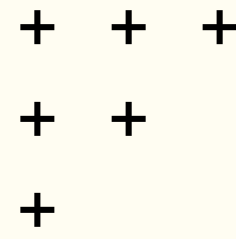
## RECONCILIATION

**Conflict is real,  
even when the  
basis is wrong.**

And they said to him, “You see, brother, how many thousands there are among the Jews of those who have believed. They are all zealous for the law,<sup>21</sup> and **they have been told about you that you teach all the Jews who are among the Gentiles to forsake Moses, telling them not to circumcise their children or walk according to our customs.**

ACTS 21:20B-21 ESV



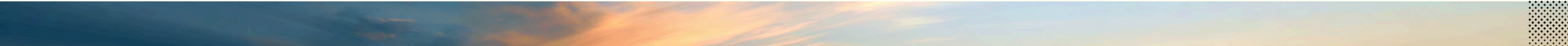


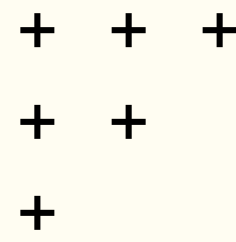
## RECONCILIATION

**Our actions speak  
louder than our  
words of defense.**

What then is to be done? They will certainly hear that you have come.<sup>23</sup> Do therefore what we tell you. We have four men who are under a vow;<sup>24</sup> take these men and purify yourself along with them and pay their expenses, so that they may shave their heads. Thus all will know that there is nothing in what they have been told about you, but that you yourself also live in observance of the law.

ACTS 21:22-24 ESV



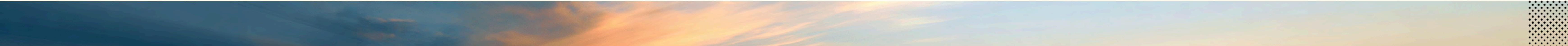


## RECONCILIATION

# Never compromise the Gospel.

“But as for the Gentiles who have believed, we have sent a letter with our judgment that they should abstain from what has been sacrificed to idols, and from blood, and from what has been strangled, and from sexual immorality.”

ACTS 21:25 ESV



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## RECONCILIATION

**Conflict is real, even  
when the basis is wrong.**

**Our actions speak louder  
than our words of defense.**

**Never compromise the Gospel.**

Then Paul took the men, and the next day he purified himself along with them and went into the temple, giving notice when the days of purification would be fulfilled and the offering presented for each one of them.

ACTS 21:26 ESV

- + Do I trust God's goodness enough to surrender all of my life to Him?
- + Do I love others enough to surrender my "rights" for the sake of relationship?

**"Let the will of the Lord be done."**

