

Questions for Reflection and Discussion

Acts 23:12-35

God's Fingerprints

Background (22:30 – 23:11)

Paul's comment about the resurrection triggered a great uproar among the Sanhedrin. Again he was rescued by the commander. Paraphrase the Lord's encouragement to Paul in Ac 23:11.

Digging In

1. **Read Ac 23:12-15.** In your own words, what was the plot against Paul?
2. **Read vss. 16-22.** How did God thwart the plot?
3. **Read vss. 23-30.** What preparations did the commander make to protect Paul?
4. What parts of Claudius Lysias' letter to Felix were accurate?
5. In what ways did he not tell the whole truth?
6. How does Luke show that Christians were not criminals, and not a threat to the Roman empire? (v. 29)
7. Can you think of other examples where Luke develops this theme that Christians were not a threat? (16:35-39; 18:12-15)
8. **Read vss. 31-35.** Describe Paul's arrival in Caesarea.
9. Interestingly, God is not mentioned at all in these verses, yet his fingerprints can be seen. Give some examples.
10. How do you think Paul was able to keep trusting the Lord, even in the midst of threatening circumstances?



Getting Personal

- How do we see both God's sovereignty and human responsibility in this passage?
- Looking back, how have you seen God's fingerprints in your own life?
- Do you have any fears for the future? How is God calling you to trust him?
- How can Romans 8:28 be a comfort to us even when times are tough?