

The Acts of the Apostles II
The Arrival of Paul in Rome
Acts 28:1-31

I. PAUL'S MINISTRY IN MELITA (Acts 28:1-10; Acts 27:26)

A. Unharmed by a Poisonous Snake (Acts 28:1-6)

- i. On the island of Melita (Acts 28:1; Acts 27:26)
- ii. The barbarous people (Acts 28:2; Romans 1:14; Colossians 3:11)
- iii. The bite of the serpent (Acts 28:2-3; Mark 16:17-18)
- iv. The mind of the islanders (Acts 28:4-6)
 1. That he was a murderer (Acts 28:4)
 2. That he was a god (Acts 28:5-6; cp. Matthew 21:9, with Matthew 27:22; Acts 14:11, with verse 19)

B. Healed Many of their Diseases (Acts 28:7-10; Acts 19:11-12; 1 Corinthians 12:9; 2 Corinthians 12:11-12)

- i. The father of the chief man (Acts 28:7-8)
- ii. Many others of the island (Acts 28:9)
- iii. The honors of the people (Acts 28:10)

Note: Compare 2 Corinthians 12:7-10; Philippians 2:25-27; 1 Timothy 5:23; 2 Timothy 4:20)

II. PAUL'S FINAL TRIP TO ROME (Acts 28:11-16)

- A. Travelling Up the Coast of Italy (Acts 28:11-13)
- B. Meeting Brethren along the way (Acts 28:14-15)
- C. Dwelling in a house in Rome (Acts 28:16)

III. PAUL'S MESSAGE TO THE JEWS (Acts 28:17-24)

- A. His Call to the Jews (Acts 28:17-21; Romans 9:1-5; Romans 10:1-4)
 - i. His declaration of innocence (Acts 28:17-19)
 - ii. The hope of Israel (Acts 28:20; Acts 23:6; Acts 26:6-8)

- iii. The ignorance of the Jews (Acts 28:21)
- B. His Audience with the Jews (Acts 28: 22-24)
 - i. Their desire to hear (Acts 28:22)
 - ii. The message of Jesus (Acts 28:23; 1 Corinthians 2:2; Acts 15:3-4)
 - iii. The reaction of the Jews (Acts 28:24; Acts 14:4; Acts 17:4-5; 32-34)
- IV. PAUL'S MISSION TO THE GENTILES (Acts 28:25-31)
 - A. Paul Quotes from Isaiah (Acts 28:25-27; Isaiah 6:8-13)
 - B. Paul Turns to the Gentiles (Acts 28:28-29; Acts 13:45-47; Acts 18:5-6; Romans 11:13; 2 Timothy 1:11)
 - C. Paul Dwells in Rome (Acts 28:30-31)
- V. PAUL'S FINAL MISSIONARY JOURNEY
 - A. The Time of the Journey
 - i. After his first Roman imprisonment (Acts 28:30)
 - ii. After his first deliverance (2 Timothy 4:16-17)
 - iii. Before his final departure (2 Timothy 4:6)
 - B. The Purpose of the Journey
 - i. To visit his converts
 - ii. To come into Spain (Romans 15:24, 28)
 - C. The Proof of the Journey
 - i. Cloak and books at Troas (2 Timothy 4:13)
 - ii. Trophimus at Miletum sick (2 Timothy 4:20)

Note: By the end of Acts, Paul had been imprisoned over four years [2 years in Caesarea (Acts 24:27); 2 years in Rome (Acts 28:30)]. When he wrote 2 Timothy he was preparing to die. Therefore, he had to have had time of freedom from prison between the end of the book of Acts and 2 Timothy.

VI. PAUL'S MARTYRDOM IN ROME

A. The Record of 2 Timothy (2 Timothy 4:6-8; subscript at end).

B. The Voice of Tradition –

i. Beheaded at the command of Nero around 69 A.D.

ii. From the book *Martyrs Mirror* by Thieleman J. van Braght: “As regards his imprisonment at Rome, most of the ancient writers are of the opinion that, although nearly all his friends forsook him at the time when he was to make his defense, he, being brought before Caesar, defended himself so cleverly against the accusation of the Jews, that he was set free for this time. . But how true this is, we leave to its own merits, and to the omniscience of God. This much, however, is certain, that while in prison at Rome, he wrote to his spiritual son Timothy, that he was now ready to be offered as a drink offering, and that the time of his departure was at hand; but that he took comfort in the thought, that he had fought a good fight, finished his course, and kept the faith, and that here was laid up for him a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, should give him at that day. (2 Timothy 4:6-8)