

Know Where to Find Courage?

Acts 23

Paul is being held by a commander of Roman troops. He is questioned by the Sanhedrin, a ruling body of the Jews. Paul said to them, “My brothers, I have fulfilled my duty to God in all good conscience to this day.” When Ananias (Roman ruler in Jerusalem) heard this, he ordered the people next to Paul to strike him on the mouth.

There were also Sadducees and Pharisees listening. Paul was a Pharisee and they believed in the resurrection, the Sadducees did not. Now a fight broke out between the two. The Pharisees said they could find no fault with Paul. The commander realized that if he didn't take Paul away, he would have been torn to pieces.



Photo: Take courage. Things will get better.

Every Day with God

It seems like every chapter in Acts we find Paul, who once persecuted people, now being persecuted. Can you imagine having the ruler of country ordering people to punch Paul in the mouth? Why doesn't Paul just give up, take his bat and ball and go home? No one seems to appreciate him.

We find good news in the last verse of Acts 23 when God tells Paul, “Take courage! As you have testified about me in Jerusalem so you must also testify in Rome.”

Paul's work is not over. He has miles to go before he sleeps. The same is true of us. Our work is not over. You and I need to keep studying the Scriptures and telling others about Jesus. Have courage. We can do it.

Prayer: Thank you, Jesus, for giving me courage.