

# The History of the Early Christian Church



## Acts Chapters 21-22

### Read 21:1-14

Background: In the last chapter, we had read about Paul's tearful goodbye to the elders at Ephesus. The Holy Spirit had warned Paul that prison and hardships were waiting for him. In spite of that, Paul was being compelled by the Holy Spirit to go. Paul and his companions were delivering an offering for the church in Jerusalem, which was going through some difficult times. Paul was hoping to arrive in Jerusalem in time for Pentecost (20:16).

1. Compare verse 4 with 20:22. What gives? Was the Holy Spirit giving mixed messages?
2. What did the prophet Agabus predict would happen to Paul? Describe the reaction of Paul's friends, and why their attitude eventually changed.

### Read 21:15-36

3. "Mnason... was from Cyprus and was one of the first disciples" (v. 16)
4. What happened when Paul arrived in Jerusalem and met with James and the elders, and what lessons can we learn from what transpired?
5. The Jewish Christians in Jerusalem heard a false report about Paul. What was it, and why was it a false report?
6. What plan did the leaders in Jerusalem come up with to correct the misunderstanding of Paul's teaching?

7. When Jews from Asia saw Trophimus at the temple with Paul, they assumed the worst. When are we most likely to assume the worst about people?

What directives does the Lord give us in that matter in 1 Corinthians 13:5-7?

**Read 21:37-22:29**

8. "Are you not the Egyptian who started a revolt some time ago" (v. 38)

9. Paul stood up to address the mob that had gathered. Look at each of the following sections. In each of them, how did Paul defend himself against the charges of the Jews from Asia?

- Verses 2-5
- Verses 6-11
- Verses 12-16
- Verses 17-21

10. A or D: Paul's address to the mob bore no fruit.