Paul Speaks in Pisidian Antioch and Caesarea

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<td><strong>Opening</strong></td>
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<td><strong>O:</strong> (a) 14 but they went on from Perga and came to Antioch in Pisidia.</td>
<td>Agrippa said to Paul, ‘You have permission to SPEAK FOR YOURSELF.’</td>
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<td>(b) And on the sabbath day they went into the synagogue and sat down.</td>
<td>M: (a) Then Paul stretched out his hand and began to defend himself: 21 I consider myself fortunate that it is before you, King Agrippa, I am to make my defence today against all the accusations of the Jews, because you are especially familiar with all the customs and controversies of the Jews; therefore I beg of you to listen to me patiently.</td>
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<td>(c) 15 After the reading of the law and the prophets, the officials of the synagogue sent them a message, saying, ‘Brothers, if you have any WORD OF EXHORTATION for the people, give it.’</td>
<td>(b) 24 All the Jews know MY WAY OF LIFE from my youth, a life spent from the beginning among my own people and in Jerusalem.</td>
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<td><strong>M:</strong> (a) 16 So Paul stood up and with a gesture began to speak: ‘You Israelites, and others who fear God, listen.</td>
<td>(c) 5 They have known for a long time, if they are willing to testify, that I HAVE BELONGED TO THE STRICTEST SECT OF OUR RELIGION AND LIVED AS A PHARISEE.</td>
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<td>(b) 17 The God of this people Israel chose OUR ANCESTORS and made the people great during their stay in the land of Egypt, and with uplifted arm he led them out of it. 18 For about forty years he put up with them in the wilderness.</td>
<td>C: (a) 6 And now I STAND HERE ON TRIAL on account of my hope in the promise made by God to our ancestors, a promise that our twelve tribes hope to attain, as they earnestly worship day and night.</td>
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<td>(c) 19 After he had destroyed seven nations in the land of Canaan, HE GAVE THEM THEIR LAND AS AN INHERITANCE FOR ABOUT FOUR HUNDRED AND FIFTY YEARS, AFTER THAT HE GAVE THEM JUDGES UNTIL THE TIME OF THE PROPHET SAMUEL.</td>
<td>(b) It is for this hope, your Excellency, that I AM ACCUSED BY JEWS!</td>
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<td><strong>C:</strong> (a) 21 Then THEY ASKED FOR A KING; and God gave them Saul son of Kish, a man of the tribe of Benjamin, who reigned for forty years.</td>
<td>(c) 8 Why is it thought incredible by any of you that GOD RAISES THE DEAD?</td>
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<td>(b) 22 When he had removed him, he made David their king. In his testimony about him he said, “I HAVE FOUND DAVID, son of Jesse, to be a man after my heart, WHO WILL CARRY OUT ALL MY WISHES.”</td>
<td>(c) 2 Of this man’s posterity GOD HAS BROUGHT TO ISRAEL A SAVIOR, JESUS, as he promised;</td>
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BEFORE HIS COMING JOHN HAD ALREADY PROCLAIMED A BAPTISM OF REPENTANCE to all the people of Israel. And as John was finishing his work, he said, “What do you suppose that I am? I am not he. No, but one is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of the sandals on his feet.”

My brothers, you descendants of Abraham’s family, and others who fear God, TO US THE MESSAGE OF THIS SALVATION HAS BEEN SENT.

Because the residents of Jerusalem and their leaders did not recognize him or understand the words of the prophets that are read every sabbath, THEY FULFILLED THOSE WORDS BY CONDEMNING HIM.

Even though they found no cause for a sentence of death, THEY ASKED PILATE TO HAVE HIM KILLED.

When they had carried out everything that was written about him, THEY TOOK HIM DOWN FROM THE TREE AND LAID HIM IN A TOMB.

But GOD RAISED HIM FROM THE DEAD; and for many days he appeared to those who came up with him from Galilee to Jerusalem, and they are now his witnesses to the people.

Indeed, I MYSELF WAS CONVINCED THAT I OUGHT TO DO MANY THINGS AGAINST THE NAME OF JESUS OF NAZARETH.

And THAT IS WHAT I DID IN JERUSALEM: with authority received from the chief priests, I not only locked up many of the saints in prison, but I also cast my vote against them when they were being condemned to death.

By punishing them often in all the synagogues I tried to force them to blaspheme; and since I was so furiously enraged at them, I PURSUED THEM EVEN TO FOREIGN CITIES.

With this in mind, I WAS TRAVELLING TO DAMASCUS with the authority and commission of the chief priests, when at midday along the road, your Excellency, I saw a light from heaven, brighter than the sun, shining around me and my companions.

When WE HAD ALL FALLEN TO THE GROUND, I heard a voice saying to me in the Hebrew language, “Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me? It hurts you to kick against the goads.”

I ASKED, “WHO ARE YOU, LORD?”

I AM JESUS WHOM YOU ARE PERSECUTING.

BUT GET UP AND STAND ON YOUR FEET; for I have appeared to you for this purpose, to appoint you to serve and testify to the things in which you have seen me and to those in which I will appear to you.

I WILL RESCUE YOU FROM YOUR PEOPLE AND FROM THE GENTILES— to whom I am sending you to open their eyes so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.”
(b) 48 BEWARE, THEREFORE, THAT WHAT THE PROPHETS SAID DOES NOT HAPPEN TO YOU: 49 “Look, you scoffers! Be amazed and perish, for in your days I am doing a work, a work that you will never believe, even if someone tells you.”

(c) 42 As Paul and Barnabas were going out, the people urged them to speak about these things again the next sabbath. 43 When the meeting of the synagogue broke up, many Jews and devout converts to Judaism followed Paul and Barnabas, who SPOKE TO THEM AND URGED THEM TO CONTINUE IN THE GRACE OF GOD.

44 The next sabbath almost the whole city gathered to hear the word of the Lord.

M: (a) 45 But when the Jews saw the crowds, they were filled with jealousy; and blaspheming, they contradicted what was spoken by Paul. 46 Then both Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly, saying, “IT WAS NECESSARY THAT THE WORD OF GOD SHOULD BE SPOKEN FIRST TO YOU. Since you reject it and judge yourselves to be unworthy of eternal life, we are now turning to the Gentiles.

(c) 47 FOR SO THE LORD HAS COMMANDED US, saying, “I have set you to be a light for the Gentiles, so that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth.”

C: (a) 48 WHEN THE GENTILES HEARD THIS, THEY WERE GLAD AND PRAISED THE WORD OF THE LORD; and as many as had been destined for eternal life became believers. 49 Thus the word of the Lord spread throughout the region.

(b) 50 The Jews incited the devout women of high standing and the leading men of the city, and stirred up persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and drove them out of their region. 51 So THEY SHOOK THE DUST OFF THEIR FEET IN PROTEST AGAINST THEM, and went to Iconium.

(c) 52 And THE DISCIPLES WERE FILLED WITH JOY AND WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT.

\[\text{(a)}\] After that, King Agrippa, I WAS NOT DISOBEDIENT TO THE HEAVENLY VISION, 26 BUT DECLARED FIRST TO THOSE IN DAMASCUS, THEN IN JERUSALEM AND THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRYSIDE OF JUDEA, AND ALSO TO THE GENTILES, that they should repent and turn to God and do deeds consistent with repentance.

(b) 27 For this reason THE JEWS SEIZED ME IN THE TEMPLE AND TRIED TO KILL ME.

(c) 28 TO THIS DAY I HAVE HAD HELP FROM GOD, and so I STAND HERE, TESTIFYING to both small and great, SAYING NOTHING BUT WHAT THE PROPHETS AND MOSES SAID WOULD TAKE PLACE. 29 THAT THE MESSIAH MUST SUFFER, AND THAT, BY BEING THE FIRST TO RISE FROM THE DEAD, HE WOULD PROCLAIM LIGHT BOTH TO OUR PEOPLE AND TO THE GENTILES.’

M: (a) 24 While he was making this defence, Festus exclaimed, ‘You are out of your mind, Paul! Too much learning is driving you insane!’ 25 But Paul said, ‘I AM NOT OUT OF MY MIND, MOST EXCELLENT FESTUS, BUT I AM SPEAKING THE SOBER TRUTH.

26 Indeed the king knows about these things, and to him I speak freely; for I am certain that none of these things has escaped his notice, for this was not done in a corner.

(c) 28 King Agrippa, do you believe the prophets? I KNOW THAT YOU BELIEVE.’

C: (a) 28 Agrippa said to Paul, ‘Are you so quickly persuading me to become a Christian?’ 29 Paul replied, ‘Whether quickly or not, I PRAY TO GOD THAT NOT ONLY YOU BUT ALSO ALL WHO ARE LISTENING TO ME TODAY MIGHT BECOME SUCH AS I AM—except for these chains.’

(b) 32 Then the king got up, and with him the governor and Bernice and those who had been seated with them; 31 and as they were leaving, they said to one another, ‘THIS MAN IS DOING NOTHING TO DESERVE DEATH OR IMPRISONMENT.’

(c) 32 Agrippa said to Festus, ‘THIS MAN COULD HAVE BEEN SET FREE IF HE HAD NOT APPEALED TO THE EMPEROR.’