

## Acts 24-26 - Daily Study Questions (cont)

4. Using Acts 25:1-12 what request was made of Festus and why (v1-3)? How did he answer (v4-6)? Describe the hearing (v7-8) and its outcome (v9-12)? Why was this significant?

5. In 25:13-21 who came to Caesarea (v13)? What points did Festus make about Paul's case (v14, 15-16, 17-18, 19) and how did he summarize it (v19, 20-21)? What was decided (v22)?

6. From 25:23-27 how did Agrippa enter (v23) and what did Festus say to him (v24-25)? What was Festus' dilemma and solution (v26-27)?

7. Using 26:1-11 how did Paul begin and why (v1-3), and what was his opening defense (v4-5)? Why did he say he was on trial (v6-7) and why was this absurd (v8)? To what extremes had he gone (v9-11)?

8. According to 26:12-18 what caused Paul to stop his assault and change (v12-13, 14, 15)? What did Jesus tell him about his purpose and plan for him (v16, 17-18)?

9. Based on 26:19-23 how did Paul respond (v19, 20) and to what did this lead (v21)? How did Paul state the basis of his argument (v22, 23)?

10. Read 26:24-32. What was Festus' reaction (v24) and Paul's response (v25-26)? What did he ask Agrippa (v27), what did he say (v28) and what was Paul's "comeback" (v29)? What was the outcome of this hearing (v30-32)?

11. Summarize Paul's defense in his three trials and the outcome of each. What are some spiritual truths that came out of each trial? How is Paul a good example for us in these trials?

### Scripture to Remember

"I also do my best to maintain always a blameless conscience both before God and before men."

**Acts 24:16 (NASV)**

### Celebration Fellowship

*Help—Hope—Healing*

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### Life Group Questions

#### *The Revelation of Christmas (John 1:1-18)*

*(Using questions from Sunday's message, Life Groups meet in homes to build supportive relationships with others at Celebration Fellowship that enable us to grow in Christ.)*

1. Share with your group about one of your favorite Christmas memories. It seems like most of them have to do with family—why do you think that is so?
2. Read John 1:1-3, 14. Who is "the Word" (v1, 3, 14) and what did He do for us (v3, 14)? Why is that so significant? How does this contrast with the typical "baby Jesus" picture we have at Christmas?
3. Look at John 1:4-13. What did Jesus bring to us (v4) and how would you define His "mission" (v5)? How does His "light" relate to the "life" He brings?
4. Think about some examples of darkness that mankind dwells in today. How does Jesus' "light" dispel this darkness? How do we live this out practically?
5. From 1:9-13 how do people in general respond to Jesus? What offer does Jesus make to them, and how does this happen? How would you share this with someone?
6. Based on 1:14-18 what are some of the results of the "Word becoming flesh"? Why is it significant that He is "the only begotten", full of grace, truth and glory?
7. Share or discuss anything else meaningful from the message if you have time.



# MANIFEST DESTINY

Studies in Acts

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## Head of the Table Acts 24-26

### The 5 Purposes of the Purpose Driven Life

- **Worship**—You were planned for God’s pleasure
- **Fellowship**—You were formed for God’s family
- **Discipleship**—You were created to become like Christ
- **Ministry**—You were shaped for serving God
- **Evangelism**—You were made for a mission

When the chairman walked into the board room his assistant informed him that someone had taken his seat at the head of the table. The chairman replied, “Son, wherever I sit is the head of the table.” The apostle Paul must have felt that way as he faced three trials before Roman officials in this week’s study. Even though he was being tried, he was actually the one in charge. These were opportunities for him to share with people in powerful positions about Jesus Christ, and he used them to full advantage. In his trial before Felix, the Roman governor, he presented a blameless conscience. Although falsely accused by the Jewish council he cheerfully defended himself, saying that he only had the same hope in God that the Jews had and that his conscience was clear towards both God and men. His admitted that the real reason

he was on trial was due to his belief in the resurrection of the dead. With this Felix planned to postpone his decision, but then reversed course when Drusilla, his wife, arrived and listened again to Paul. He was frightened, though, by his preaching, so he sent him back to prison for two years, and also hoped that he would get a bribe from Paul. Festus, who succeeded Felix, was then asked quickly by the Jews to try Paul—but in Jerusalem since they wanted to ambush him on the way. After hearing the evidence it became obvious that it was a baseless charge by the Jews that Paul be put to death. In order to please the Jews, though, Festus asked Paul if he would go to Jerusalem to be tried. Knowing the potential ambush Paul instead appealed to Caesar and his wish was granted. Finally, King Agrippa arrived and Festus apprised



**The manifest destiny of disciples is to recapture the world for Jesus.**

him of Paul’s situation. The king wanted to hear from Paul, so he gladly gave him his testimony. As he did, this was such a believable confession that he asked Agrippa if he believed in the Prophets. Agrippa declared that in a short time Paul would persuade him to become a Christian, so he dismissed him. As he and Festus discussed the case among themselves they agreed that that he had done nothing worthy of death or imprisonment. However, Paul had appealed to Caesar, so he would be sent there. This is what Paul, who was really in charge, ultimately wanted—he was at the head of the able.

## Study Questions for Acts 24-26

(For answers go to [http://www.celebrationnet.com/abf/html/study\\_questions](http://www.celebrationnet.com/abf/html/study_questions))

1. Looking at Acts 24:1-9 who accused Paul (v1-2, 9) and before whom (v2-4)? What were their accusations (v5, 6)? Who did they blame for getting Felix involved (v6-8)?	
2. From 24:10-21 what was Paul’s attitude (v10) and what evidence did he present (v11-13, 17-21)? What did he admit (v14-15) and what did this mean (v16)? How is this a good example for us?	
3. Read 24:22-27. What did Felix decide (v22-23) and why (v22)? How did his plan change (v24) and what was the result (v25)? What else did he want (v26) and what was the result for Paul (v27)?	

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