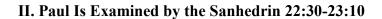
Paul's Trial Before the Sanhedrin

Acts 22:22-23:10

Intro: The conclusion of Paul's address to the Jews is extremely dramatic and filled with suspense. First, Paul is delivered from Roman scourging by appealing to his Roman citizenship (vv. 24-29). Second, he confronts the hypocrisy of Ananias, the high priest (22:30–31:5). And third, he divides the members of the Sanhedrin (Sadducees and Pharisees) by confessing his "hope in the resurrection of the dead" (23:6-10). The unit closes with Jesus' appearing to Paul in order to encourage and reassure him (23:11).

I. Paul Is Examined by Lysias 22:22-29

- A. Paul's *rejection* by the Jews (vv. 22-23)
- B. Paul's *rescue* by Lysias (v. 24a)
- C. Paul's *revelation* of his Roman citizenship (vv. 24b-29)





- A. Lysias commands the Sanhedrin Jewish Council to assemble (22:30)
- B. Paul confronts the Council members (23:1-5)
- C. Paul confesses his hope in the resurrection of the dead (vv. 6-10)
 - 1Cor. 15:17—"If Christ has not been raised our faith is worthless; you are still in your sins. And those who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished."
 - 1 Cor 15:51-54—The mystery concerning the rapture of living believers explained.
 - 1 Thess 4:13-18—*The sequence of the rapture*—of those who have died in Christ and of those believers living when Christ returns on the clouds!

III. Paul Is Encouraged by the LORD 23:11

- A. His witness in Jerusalem was ordained by God (23:11a)
- B. His witness in Rome is also ordained by God (23:11b)

Applications:

- 1. If we have trusted in Jesus Christ for salvation, we are assured of eternal life!
- 2. Always be ready to give a defense of the truth of Jesus Christ (23:6; 1 Pet 3:15)
- 3. Allow God to speak to your heart by spending time in His Word daily! He wants to strengthen, encourage, and equip us to serve as His living witnesses for Jesus Christ!