Paul's Deliverance from the Jews

Acts 23:11-35

Intro: Having failed in their attempts to kill Paul, a group of over 40 fanatical Jews (*Sicarri*) formed a conspiracy, and bound themselves under an oath to neither eat or drink until they had killed him. Paul's sister's son brought news of the conspiracy to Paul who sent him to the commander. The commander compiled a large Roman force (470) to escort Paul to Caesarea, where he would stand trial before Felix the Roman governor.

I. The Conspiracy of the Jews to Kill Paul 23:11-22

- A. The plot conceived by the Jews (vv. 11-15)
- B. The plot revealed to the Commander (vv. 16-22)

II. The Commander Escorts Paul to Caesarea 23:23-35

- A. The preparation of the troops (vv. 23-24)
- B. The problem described in a letter (vv. 25-30)



Caesarea Philippi

- C. The procession to Antipatris and Caesarea (vv. 31-32a)
 - 1. Jerusalem to Antipatras—35 miles
 - 2. Antipatras to Caesarea—25 miles
- D. The presentation of Paul to Felix, the governor (v. 33-35)
 - 1. Felix reads the letter declaring Paul's innocence (v. 33)
 - 2. Felix reassures Paul that he will hear his case (vv. 34-35)

Applications:

- 1. The LORD Jesus Himself assured Paul that he would bear His witness to Rome (23:11)
- 2. God uses even the plans of our enemies to accomplish His sovereign purposes.
- 3. It is *ironic* that the Romans are more courteous to Paul than his own people (Jews).