

Understand your Bible

Suggested notes

Acts 23

What we will see in this chapter:

- What Paul said to the Jewish council in his defence
- How the Jews reacted
- How the Roman commanding officer responded to Paul's situation

1 Read the chapter

2 Questions to help us in our understanding of this chapter. Look at the chapter verses in your Bible and use the questions to help you make your notes.

Chapter verses	Questions (to help with your notes)	Suggested notes
1 to 5 <i>Text note v 5: Paul quotes Exodus 22 v 28.</i>	1. What was Paul's opening comment to the council and how did Ananias respond?	Paul said he had lived before God with a good conscience until now. Ananias ordered those close by him to strike him on the mouth.
6 to 10	2. What belief of the Pharisees did Paul have, and say he was being judged for, and what happened next?	He said that he was being judged for having the hope of the resurrection of the dead. The Pharisees and Sadducees began arguing whether there would be a resurrection.
11	3. What did the Lord tell Saul the following night?	Paul was told that he must witness for Jesus in Rome.
12 to 15	4. What did some of the Jews do?	Forty of them swore an oath that they wouldn't eat till they had killed Paul.
16 to 22	5. What happened to thwart the Jews' plan?	Paul's sister's son heard about the plan and he came and told Paul. Paul asked one of the centurions to let the young man tell the commanding officer.
23 to 30	6. How did the commanding officer respond to what he heard?	He arranged two hundred soldiers, two hundred men armed with spears and seventy horsemen to escort Paul to Felix the governor at Caesarea with a letter explaining Paul's case.

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31 to 35	7. What happened to Paul when they reached Caesarea?	The governor read the letter explaining Paul's case and he decided to keep Paul in Herod's palace until his accusers could come.

3 Related theme from v 6: *Resurrection at the return of Jesus Christ.*

Have a look at these related verses and see this theme running through the Bible. Make a note of the main point(s) in the verse(s).

Verse(s)	Main point(s)
John 11 v 23 and 24	Jesus confirms the confidence that his friend Martha expresses in the resurrection at the last day.
1 Corinthians 15 v 22 and 23	Those in Christ will be made alive at his coming.
1 Thessalonians 4 v 16	Jesus will come from heaven and the dead in Christ will be raised.