

Introduction

Paul appears before the new Roman governor Festus (v 6).

Paul asks to be tried before Caesar and Festus agrees. Festus consults with King Agrippa over what charge to lay against Paul.

Questions

1. Why did the high priest and the Jews want Paul to be taken to Jerusalem?



- 2. What was Festus' compromise solution to the lack of evidence, and wanting to do the Jews a favour?
- 3. Why did Festus ask Agrippa to hear the case against Paul?

Summary Points

- v 1 to 5 Festus goes to Jerusalem and the Jews ask Festus to fetch Paul intending to kill him on the way. Festus declines and tells them to come to Caesarea
- **v 6 to 12** When the Jews come, they have no real evidence and Paul claims he is innocent. Paul declines a hearing in Jerusalem, and appeals to Caesar
- **v 13 to 27** When Festus is later visited by King Agrippa (see information), he informs him about Paul. He tells him that the Jews accuse Paul of believing that Jesus has been raised from the dead (see theme). He asks for help in understanding Paul's case so that he can specify the charges against him

Timeline AD 60 (see below)

Theme / Information

The significance of Jesus' resurrection

A selection of verses showing the significance of Jesus Christ rising from the dead.

Jesus says that those who die, who believe in him, will live again:

John 11 verse 25

The apostle Paul tells us that if we are associated with Christ, we can be raised as he was:

Romans 6 verse 5

God has not only raised the Lord from the dead, he has power to raise us as well:

1 Corinthians 6 verse 14

He [God] who raised Jesus from the dead will also raise those who believe:

2 Corinthians 4 verse 14

The apostle Peter says that because Christ was raised we can have a real hope for the future:

1 Peter 1 verse 3



The Herod family

Information on selected members of the Herodian family and Roman governors are who significant in NewTestament events.

The family tree below includes the Herodian family members and most of the Roman governors mentioned in the New Testament. It is not a complete family tree. Numbers on names refer to notes below.



Names of people referred to in the New Testament are in Boldface

- 1. **Herod the Great**, founder of the dynasty, tried to kill the infant Jesus by the "slaughter of the innocents" at Bethlehem.
- 2. Herod Philip, uncle and first husband of Herodias, was not a ruler.
- 3. Herodias left Herod Philip to marry his half-brother Herod Antipas, Tetrarch of Galilee & Perea.
- 4. John the Baptist rebuked Antipas for marrying Herodias, his brother's wife, while his brother was still alive—against the law of Moses.
- Salome danced for Herod Antipas and, at Herodias's direction, requested the beheading of John the Baptist. Later she married her great-uncle Philip the Tetrarch.
- 6. **Herod Antipas**, Tetrarch of Galilee and Perea (r. 4 B.C.E.–39 C.E.), was **Herodias's** uncle and second husband. After **Salome's** dance and his rash promise, he executed John the Baptist. Much later he held part of Jesus' trial.
- 7. **Herod Archelaus**, Ethnarch of Judea, Samaria and Idumea (r. 4 B.C.E.–6 C.E.), was replaced by a series of Roman governors, including **Pontius Pilate** (r. 26–36 C.E.).
- 8. **Philip** the Tetrarch of northern territories (r. 4 B.C.E.–34 C.E.) later married **Herodias's** daughter **Salome**, his grandniece.



- 9. King Herod Agrippa I (r. 37–44 C.E.) executed James the son of Zebedee and imprisoned Peter before his miraculous escape.
- 10. Berenice, twice widowed, left her third husband to be with brother Agrippa II (rumoured lover) and was with him at Festus's trial of Paul.
- 11. King Herod Agrippa II (r. 50–c. 93 C.E.) was appointed by Festus to hear Paul's defence.
- 12. Antonius Felix, Roman procurator of Judea (r. 52–c. 59 C.E.), Paul's first judge, left him in prison for two years until new procurator **Porcius Festus** (r. c. 60–62 C.E.) became the second judge, and **Paul** appealed to Caesar.
- 13. Drusilla left her first husband to marry Roman governor Felix.

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? Questions & Answers

Verses which answer the questions: Q 1: v 2 and 3, 2: v 9, Q 3: v 26 and 27



Bible timeline

