

Felix: A Study in Procrastination

Acts 24:24-27

February 28, 2010 (CSBC)

Introduction:

1. Last week Paul stood before Felix
 - a. Had to listen to false charges be brought against him
 - b. Had to defend himself
2. Today, Felix stands before Paul
 - a. May not seem that way but Paul is now on the offensive
 - b. He would share heaven's message with this earthly judge
 - c. The response of the judge would determine his eternity

READ PASSAGE & PRAY

I. Felix the Man (v.24)

- A. Antonius Felix was the governor of Judea
 - a. Appointed by Claudius Caesar
 - b. Gained this position two years before this encounter with Paul
- B. There are not many good things to say about Felix
 - a. He was unprincipled, ungodly, a schemer
 - b. He had his own version of "Murder Inc." to get rid of his enemies
- C. Let's look at his wife Drusilla
 - a. She was the youngest and most beautiful daughter of King Agrippa I
 - b. She had married King Azizus but was lured away by Felix
- D. Paul, the innocent prisoner stood before two guilty people.
- E. When he spoke he spoke a message that could change the man Felix was.

II. Felix and The Message (v.25)

- A. Paul and his three point message
- B. Point one: righteousness
 - a. We are all without it
 - b. Our man-made righteousness is as filthy rags (Isa. 64:6)
 - c. Our only hope for righteousness is through faith in Christ (Rom. 4:3)
- C. Point two: temperance (self-control)
 - a. This word is used three times in the Bible; here, Galatians 5:23, and 2 Peter 1:6
 - b. Felix was a controller out of control; he was only interested in controlling others
 - c. Christ offers self-control to those who can't control their lust and sinful habits
- D. Point three: judgment to come
 - a. What courage from Paul this took!
 - b. He told the judge that someday he would be judged
 - c. We all need to face this truth and prepare to face it (Heb. 9:27)

III. Felix and the Mistake (vv.25-27)

- A. He trembled as Paul finished his message
 - a. It seems God was at work convicting him of his sins
 - b. This was the time for a decision that could change his eternity
- B. He chose to procrastinate
- C. The Bible says today is the day of salvation. Why procrastinate?
- D. Forgiveness for sin is just a prayer away. Why procrastinate?

Conclusion:

1. Don't put off until tomorrow what you need to do for the Lord today.