

**Acts, Chapter 23, Greek Text – Westcott-Hort,
Interlinear English – G.T. Emery.**

23 Ἀτενίσας δὲ Παῦλος τῷ συνεδρίῳ εἶπεν· Ἄνδρες ἀδελφοί, ἐγὼ πάσῃ συνειδήσει
Having stared and Paul at the Sanhedrin he said; Men brothers, I in all conscience
ἀγαθῇ πεπολίτευμαι τῷ θεῷ ἄχρι ταύτης τῆς ἡμέρας.
good have lived¹ to the God until this the day.

² ὁ δὲ ἀρχιερεὺς Ἀνανίας ἐπέταξεν τοῖς παρεστῶσιν αὐτῷ τύπτειν αὐτοῦ τὸ στόμα.
The and chief priest Ananias commanded the having stood by² him to strike of him the mouth.

³ τότε ὁ Παῦλος πρὸς αὐτὸν εἶπεν· Τύπτειν σε μέλλει ὁ θεός, τοῖχε κεκοιναμένε·
Then the Paul unto him said; To strike you is about the God, wall³ having beenwhitened;⁴
καὶ σὺ κάθη κρίνων με κατὰ τὸν νόμον, καὶ παρανομῶν κελεύεις με
and you sit judging me according to the Law, and violating law⁵ you command me
τύπτεσθαι;
to be struck?

⁴ οἱ δὲ παρεστῶτες εἶπαν· Τὸν ἀρχιερέα τοῦ θεοῦ λοιδορεῖς;
The and having stood near⁶ said; The chief priest of the God you curse?

⁵ ἔφη τε ὁ Παῦλος· Οὐκ ᾔδειν, ἀδελφοί, ὅτι ἐστὶν ἀρχιερεὺς· γέγραπται γὰρ
Said and the Paul; Not I had known, brothers, that he is chief priest; it has been written for
ὅτι Ἄρχοντα τοῦ λαοῦ σου οὐκ ἐρεῖς κακῶς.
that A ruler of the people you not will speak improperly.⁷

⁶ Γνοῦς δὲ ὁ Παῦλος ὅτι τὸ ἓν μέρος ἐστὶν Σαδδουκαίων τὸ
Having perceived and the Paul that the one part is of Sadducees the
δὲ ἕτερον Φαρισαίων ἔκραζεν ἐν τῷ συνεδρίῳ· Ἄνδρες ἀδελφοί, ἐγὼ Φαρισαῖος εἰμι,
but other of Pharisees he cried out in the Sanhedrin; Men brothers, I a Pharisee I am,
υἱὸς Φαρισαίων, περὶ ἐλπίδος καὶ ἀναστάσεως νεκρῶν κρίνομαι.
son of a Pharisee, concerning hope and resurrection of dead I am being judged.

⁷ τοῦτο δὲ αὐτοῦ λαλοῦντος ἐγένετο στάσις τῶν Φαρισαίων καὶ Σαδδουκαίων καὶ
This and him having said became dissension of the Pharisees and Sadducees and
ἐσχίσθη τὸ πλῆθος.
became divided the multitude.

⁸ Σαδδουκαῖοι γὰρ λέγουσιν μὴ εἶναι ἀνάστασιν μήτε ἄγγελον μήτε πνεῦμα, Φαρισαῖοι
Sadducees for say not to be a resurrection nor angel nor spirit, Pharisees
δὲ ὁμολογοῦσιν τὰ ἀμφοτέρα.
but profess the both.

⁹ ἐγένετο δὲ κραυγὴ μεγάλη καὶ ἀναστάντες τινὲς τῶν γραμματέων τοῦ μέρους τῶν
Became and a cry great and having risen up certain of the scribes of the part of the
Φαρισαίων διεμάχοντο λέγοντες· Οὐδὲν κακὸν εὕρισκομεν ἐν τῷ
Pharisees were protesting violently⁸ saying; Nothing evil we find in the
ἀνθρώπῳ τούτῳ· εἰ δὲ πνεῦμα ἐλάλησεν αὐτῷ ἢ ἄγγελος;
man this; if and a spirit spoke to him or an angel?

1 Also in Phil. 1:27.

2 Perfect, active, participle.

3 τοῖχε, n.m. wall of a house, - only here in the NT.

4 See also Mt. 23:27.

5 παρανομῶν, v., contravening or violating the law, present, active, participle, - only here in the NT.

6 Perfect, active, participle.

7 Exodus 22:28.

8 διεμάχοντο, v. protest forcibly or violently, imperfect, mid. or pas. dep., indicative, - only here in the NT

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¹⁰ Πολλῆς δὲ γινομένης στάσεως φοβηθεὶς ὁ χιλιάρχος μὴ
Much and having happened dissension having been afraid⁹ the chiliarchos not
διασπασθῆ ὁ Παῦλος ὑπ' αὐτῶν, ἐκέλευσεν τὸ στράτευμα καταβὰν
should be dismembered¹⁰ the Paul by them, commanded the bodyguard having come down
ἀρπάσαι αὐτὸν ἐκ μέσου αὐτῶν ἄγειν εἰς τὴν παρεμβολήν.
to snatch him out of midst of them to bring into the barracks.
¹¹ Τῇ δὲ ἐπιούσῃ νυκτὶ ἐπιστὰς αὐτῷ ὁ κύριος εἶπεν· Θάρσει·
On the and following night having stood by him the Lord said; Let you take courage;
ὡς γὰρ διεμαρτύρω τὰ περὶ ἐμοῦ εἰς Ἱερουσαλήμ, οὕτως σε δεῖ καὶ εἰς Ῥώμην
as for testified the things concerning me in Jerusalem, so you it behoves also in Rome
μαρτυρῆσαι.
to testify.

A Plot to Kill Paul

¹² Γενομένης δὲ ἡμέρας ποιήσαντες συστροφὴν οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι ἀνεθεμάτισαν ἑαυτοὺς,
Having come and day having made a conspiracy¹¹ the Jews bound under an oath themselves,
λέγοντες μὴτε φαγεῖν μὴτε πιεῖν ἕως οὗ ἀποκτείνωσιν τὸν Παῦλον.
saying not to eat nor to drink until where they should kill the Paul.
¹³ ἦσαν δὲ πλείους τεσσαεράκοντα οἱ ταύτην τὴν συνωμοσίαν ποιησάμενοι,
Were and more forty the these the conspiracy making,
¹⁴ οἵτινες προσελθόντες τοῖς ἀρχιερεῦσιν καὶ τοῖς πρεσβυτέροις εἶπαν· Ἀναθέματι
who having approached to the chief priests and to the elders said; With an oath
ἀνεθεματίσαμεν ἑαυτοὺς μηδενὸς γεύσασθαι ἕως οὗ ἀποκτείνωμεν τὸν Παῦλον.
we bound under an oath ourselves nothing to taste until where we should kill the Paul.
¹⁵ νῦν οὖν ὑμεῖς ἐμφανίσατε τῷ χιλιάρχῳ σὺν τῷ συνεδρίῳ ὅπως καταγάγῃ
Now therefore you let you inform the chiliarch with the Sanhedrin so that he may lead down
αὐτὸν εἰς ὑμᾶς ὡς μέλλοντας διαγινώσκειν ἀκριβέστερον τὰ περὶ αὐτοῦ·
him to you as it were you being about to determine more exactly the things concerning of him;
ἡμεῖς δὲ πρὸ τοῦ ἐγγίσει αὐτὸν ἔτοιμοι ἐσμεν τοῦ ἀνελεῖν αὐτόν.
we and before of the to draw near him prepared we are of the to kill him.
¹⁶ Ἀκούσας δὲ ὁ υἱὸς τῆς ἀδελφῆς Παύλου τὴν ἐνέδραν, παραγενόμενος καὶ
Having heard but the son of the sister of Paul the ambush,¹² having come and
εἰσελθὼν εἰς τὴν παρεμβολὴν ἀπήγγειλεν τῷ Παύλῳ.
having entered into the barracks told the Paul.
¹⁷ προσκαλεσάμενος δὲ ὁ Παῦλος ἓνα τῶν ἑκατονταρχῶν ἔφη· Τὸν νεανίαν τούτου
Having called near and the Paul one of the centurions said; The young man this
ἄπαγε πρὸς τὸν χιλιάρχον, ἔχει γὰρ ἀπαγγεῖλαι τι αὐτῷ.
let you lead away unto the chiliarch, he has for to tell something to him.
¹⁸ ὁ μὲν οὖν παραλαβὼν αὐτὸν ἤγαγεν πρὸς τὸν χιλιάρχον καὶ φησὶν· Ὁ δέσμιος
The indeed therefore having taken him brought unto the chiliarch and he says; The prisoner
Παῦλος προσκαλεσάμενος με ἠρώτησεν τούτου τὸν νεανίαν ἀγαγεῖν πρὸς σέ,
Paul having called near me asked this the young man to bring unto you,
ἔχοντα τι λαλῆσαι σοι.
he having something to say to you.

⁹ Aorist, passive, participle.

¹⁰ See also Mk. 5:4.

¹¹ Also in 19:40.

¹² ἐνέδραν, n.n., ambush, plot, - only here in the NT.

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¹⁹ ἐπιλαβόμενος δὲ τῆς χειρὸς αὐτοῦ ὁ χιλιάρχος καὶ ἀναχωρήσας κατ' ἰδίαν
Having taken and of the hand of him the chiliarch and having withdrawn privately
ἐπυνθάνετο, Τί ἐστὶν ὃ ἔχεις ἀπαγγεῖλαι μοι;
began to inquire, What is it which you have to report to me?

²⁰ εἶπεν δὲ ὅτι Οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι συνέθεντο τοῦ ἐρωτῆσαι σε ὅπως αὔριον τὸν Παῦλον
He said and that The Jews agreed of the to request you that tomorrow the Paul
καταγάγῃς εἰς τὸ συνέδριον ὡς μέλλων τι ἀκριβέστερον πυνθάνεσθαι
you should lead down into the Sanhedrin as being about something more exactly to ascertain
περὶ αὐτοῦ.
concerning of him.

²¹ σὺ οὖν μὴ πεισθῆς αὐτοῖς· ἐνεδρεύουσιν γὰρ αὐτὸν ἐξ αὐτῶν
You therefore not should be persuaded by them; lie in wait for¹³ for him out of them
ἄνδρες πλείους τεσσεράκοντα, οἵτινες ἀνεθεμάτισαν ἑαυτοὺς μήτε φαγεῖν μήτε πιεῖν
men more forty, which bound under oath themselves neitherto eat nor to drink
ἕως οὗ ἀνέλωσιν αὐτὸν, καὶ νῦν εἰσὶν ἔτοιμοι προσδεχόμενοι τὴν ἀπὸ
until where they should kill him, and now they are ready looking for the from
σοῦ ἐπαγγελίαν.
you promise.

²² ὁ μὲν οὖν χιλιάρχος ἀπέλυσεν τὸν νεανίσκον παραγγείλας μηδενὶ
The indeed therefore chiliarch let depart the young man having commanded no one
ἐκλαλῆσαι ὅτι ταῦτα ἐνεφάνισας πρὸς ἐμέ.
to divulge¹⁴ that these things you disclosed unto me.

Paul Sent Before the Governor Felix

²³ Καὶ προσκαλεσάμενος τινὰς δύο τῶν ἑκατονταρχῶν εἶπεν· Ἐτοιμάσατε στρατιώτας
And having called near a certain two of the centurions said; Let you prepare soldiers
διακοσίους, ὅπως πορευθῶσιν ἕως Καισαρείας, καὶ ἵππεῖς ἑβδομήκοντα καὶ δεξιολάβους
two hundred, so that they may go until Caesarea, and horsemen¹⁵ seventy and spearmen¹⁶
διακοσίους ἀπὸ τρίτης ὥρας τῆς νυκτός,
two hundred from third hour of the night,

²⁴ κτήνη τε παραστήσαι, ἵνα ἐπιβιβάσαντες τὸν Παῦλον διασώσωσιν πρὸς
beasts also to provide, that having mounted on the Paul they may bring safe unto
Φήλικα τὸν ἡγεμόνα,
Felix¹⁷ the governor,

13 Also in Lk. 11:54.

14 ἐκλαλῆσαι, v., divulge, tell out, aorist, active, infinitive, - only here in NT but known in Euripides, Demosthes, Judith, Philo.

15 Also in 32.

16 δεξιολάβους, n.m., spearman, anyone who throws with the right hand, - only here in the NT.

17 Felix 'happy', the Roman procurator of Judea before whom Paul "reasoned" . He appears to have expected a bribe from Paul, and therefore had several interviews with him. The "worthy deeds" referred to in 24:2 was his clearing the country of banditti and impostors. At the end of a two years' term, Porcius Festus was appointed in the room of Felix (A.D. 60), who proceeded to Rome, and was there accused of cruelty and malversation of office by the Jews of Caesarea. The accusation was rendered nugatory by the influence of his brother Pallas with Nero. (See Josephus, Ant. xx. 8, 9.) Drusilla, the daughter of Herod Agrippa, having been induced by Felix to desert her husband, the king of Emesa, became his adulterous companion. She was seated beside him when Paul "reasoned" before the judge. When Felix gave place to Festus, being "willing to do the Jews a pleasure," he left Paul bound.

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²⁵ γράψας ἐπιστολὴν ἔχουσαν τὸν τύπον τοῦτον·
He having written a letter having the manner this;

²⁶ Κλαύδιος Λυσίας τῷ κρατίστῳ ἡγεμόνι Φήλικι χαίρειν.
Claudius Lysias to the most excellent governor Felix hail.

²⁷ Τὸν ἄνδρα τοῦτον συλλημφθέντα ὑπὸ τῶν Ἰουδαίων καὶ μέλλοντα ἀναιρεῖσθαι ὑπ’
The man this having been arrested¹⁸ by the Jews and being about to be killed by
αὐτῶν ἐπιστάς σὺν τῷ στρατεύματι ἐξιλάμην, μαθὼν ὅτι Ῥωμαῖος ἐστίν.
them having arrived with the soldiery I rescued, having been informed that a Roman he is.

²⁸ βουλόμενος τε ἐπιγνῶναι τὴν αἰτίαν δι’ ἣν ἐνεκάλουν αὐτῷ,
Being disposed and to fully know the cause for which they were accusing him,
[κατήγαγον εἰς τὸ συνέδριον αὐτῶν]
[I brought down into the Sanhedrin of them]¹⁹

²⁹ ὃν εὔρον ἐγκαλούμενον περὶ ζητημάτων τοῦ νόμου αὐτῶν,
whom I found being accused concerning questions of the Law of them,
μηδὲν δὲ ἄξιον θανάτου ἢ δεσμῶν ἔχοντα ἔγκλημα.
nothing and worthy of death or bonds having accusation.

³⁰ μηνυθείσης δὲ μοι ἐπιβουλῆς εἰς τὸν ἄνδρα ἔσεσθαι, ἐξαυτῆς ἔπεμψα πρὸς σέ,
It having been disclosed²⁰ and to me a plot against the man to be, immediately I sent unto you,
παραγγείλας καὶ τοῖς κατηγοροῖς λέγειν πρὸς αὐτὸν ἐπὶ σοῦ.
having commanded also to the accusers to say unto him before you.

³¹ Οἱ μὲν οὖν στρατιῶται κατὰ τὸ διατεταγμένον αὐτοῖς ἀναλαβόντες
The indeed therefore soldiers according to the having been arranged them having taken up
τὸν Παῦλον ἤγαγον διὰ νυκτὸς εἰς τὴν Ἀντιπατρίδα,
the Paul brought through night into the Antipatris,²¹

³² τῇ δὲ ἐπαύριον ἐάσαντες τοὺς ἵππεῖς ἀπέρχεσθαι σὺν αὐτῷ ὑπέστρεψαν
the and next day having permitted the horsemen to depart with him, they returned
εἰς τὴν παρεμβολήν·
into the barracks;

³³ οἵτινες εἰσελθόντες εἰς τὴν Καισάρειαν καὶ ἀναδόντες τὴν ἐπιστολὴν τῷ ἡγεμόνι
who having entered into the Caesarea and having delivered²² the letter to the governor
παρέστησαν καὶ τὸν Παῦλον αὐτῷ.
presented also the Paul to him.

³⁴ ἀναγνοὺς δὲ καὶ ἐπερωτήσας ἐκ ποίας ἐπαρχείας ἐστίν,
Having read and and having inquired out of what province²³ he is,
καὶ πυθόμενος ὅτι ἀπὸ Κιλικίας,
and having ascertained that from Cilicia,

³⁵ Διακούσομαι σου, ἔφη, ὅταν καὶ οἱ κατήγοροι σου παραγένωνται·
I will hear you, he said, when also the accusers of you may be present;
κελεύσας ἐν τῷ πραιτωρίῳ τοῦ Ἡρώδου φυλάσσεσθαι αὐτόν.
commanding in the praetorium of the Herod to keep him.

18 Aorist, passive, participle.

19 Present in most major MSS.

20 Aorist, passive, participle.

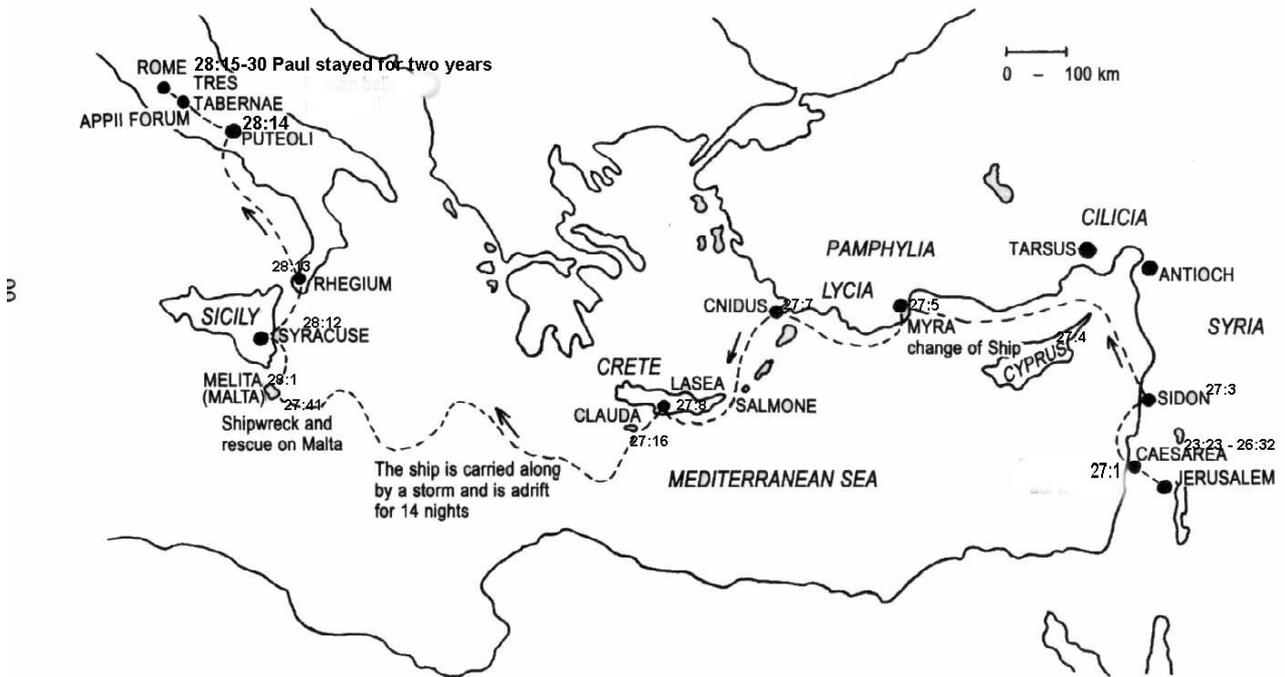
21 Antipatris - a city built by Herod the Great, and called by this name in honour of his father, Antipater. It lay between Caesarea and Lydda, two miles inland, on the great Roman road from Caesarea to Jerusalem. To this place Paul was brought by night on his way to Caesarea, from which it was distant 50kms. It is identified with the modern, Ras-el-Ain, where rise the springs of Aujeh, the largest springs in Palestine.

22 ἀναδόντες, v., hand over, deliver, aorist, active, participle, - only here in the NT.

23 See also 25:1.

**Acts, Chapter 23, Greek Text – Westcott-Hort,
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Paul's Journey To Rome 23:23 - 28:14



Felix

Born a slave, but one of those freedmen whom Claudius considered more reliable and dependable than anyone from the traditional Roman families. His brother, Pallas (also a freedman) held enormous influence over the emperor, and his intervention probably saved his brother from severe punishment after the Jews had sent a petition to Nero. Felix was perhaps the worst of a series of inappropriate procurators of Judaea, whose cruelty and ineptitude helped to stoke the resentment which resulted in the Jewish revolt of a few years later. Felix further alienated the Jewish populace by choosing Drusilla as his third wife. The Jewish Drusilla was the sister of Agrippa II and at the time she committed adultery with Felix was married to king Azizus – this one had married her on condition that she became Jewish. It is said that she married Felix to escape the envy of her sister, Berenice. Felix and Drusilla had a son who perished during the eruption of Vesuvius in 79.

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Tacitus, Annals, 12:54. Translated by Norman Ellis © Norman Ellis 2007

At frater eius, cognomento Felix, iam pridem Iudaeae impostus
But Pallas' brother, surnamed Felix, at that time governor of Judaea,
non pari moderatione agebat
did not show equal restraint
tanta potentia subnixo
but backed by great influence
cuncta malefacta sibi impune ratus
thought himself free (to commit) all kinds of crimes
sane Iudaei praebuerant speciem motus
In fact the Jews had for some time shown signs of unrest
orta seditione
a riot had broken out²⁴
cognita caede eius haud intemperatum esset
When news of Caligula's death was received,²⁵ the order had not been carried out
metus manebat ne quis principium eadem imperitavit
But the fear had since remained that any future emperor would give similar orders
atque interim delicta accendebat intempestivis remediis
However, in the meantime outbreaks were stimulated by untimely disciplinary measures
aemulo ad deterrima Ventidio Cumano, cui pars provinciae habebatur,
(actions which were) copied to the ultimate degree by Ventidius Cumanus, who controlled part of the
province,
ita divisis ut huic Galilaeorum natio, Felici Samaritae parerent,
the province was divided in such a way that the Galileans were under Ventidius, the Samaritans under
Felix,
discordes olim
there had been feuding for some time
et tum contemptu regentium minus coercitis odiis.
now they had contempt for their rulers and as their offences were being less punished
igitur raptare inter se, immittere globos latronum,
they were plundering each other's territory, sending in crowds of robbers,
componere insidias et aliquando proeliis congregari,
setting ambushes and at times openly fighting (one another),
spoliaque et praedas ad procuratores referre.
and bringing their spoils and plunder to the procurators.
hique primo laetari, mox gliscente pernicie
At first both Cumanus and Felix were pleased, but soon as destruction began to spread
cum arma militum interiecissent, caesi milites,
they intervened with armed forces, soldiers were slain,
arsissetque bello provincia, ni Quadratus Syriae rector subvenisset.
and the province would have been aflame with warfare, had Quadratus governor of Syria not sent
assistance.
nec diu adversus Iudaeos dubitatum,
Nor for a long time was there any doubt with regard to the Jews,
qui in necem militum proruperant,
who had rushed in to kill Roman soldiers,

24 In Gaius Caligula's reign – inflamed by the emperor's ordering the erection of his own statue in the Temple.

25 AD 41.

Acts, Chapter 23, Greek Text – Westcott-Hort, Interlinear English – G.T. Emery.

quin capite poenas luerent:

that they should pay the ultimate penalty (ie execution):

Cumanus et Felix cunctationem adferebant,

The position concerning Cumanus and Felix brought some delay,

quia Claudius causis rebellionis auditis

Claudius, on hearing the reasons for the revolt

ius statuendi dederat (Quadrato) de procuratoribus.

had given the power to deal with the procurators to Quadratus.

sed Quadratus Felicem inter iudices ostentavit,

But Quadratus had chosen Felix to be one of the judges,

receptum in tribunal, quo studia accusantium deterrerentur;

having been placed on the bench to quell all the efforts of the accusers;

Cumanus damnatus flagitiorum quae duo,

Cumanus was condemned for the offences of the two of them,

et quies provinciae reddita.

and peace was restored to the province.

Josephus, Ant. 20; 8:5 Translated by William Whiston

5. Now as for the affairs of the Jews, they grew worse and worse continually, for the country was again filled with robbers and impostors, who deluded the multitude. Yet did Felix catch and put to death many of those impostors every day, together with the robbers. He also caught Eleazar, the son of Dineas, who had gotten together a company of robbers; and this he did by treachery; for he gave him assurance that he should suffer no harm, and thereby persuaded him to come to him; but when he came, he bound him, and sent him to Rome. Felix also bore an ill-will to Jonathan, the high priest, because he frequently gave him admonitions about governing the Jewish affairs better than he did, lest he should himself have complaints made of him by the multitude, since he it was who had desired Caesar to send him as procurator of Judea. So Felix contrived a method whereby he might get rid of him, now he was become so continually troublesome to him; for such continual admonitions are grievous to those who are disposed to act unjustly. Wherefore Felix persuaded one of Jonathan's most faithful friends, a citizen of Jerusalem, whose name was Doras, to bring the robbers upon Jonathan, in order to kill him; and this he did by promising to give him a great deal of money for so doing. Doras complied with the proposal, and contrived matters so, that the robbers might murder him after the following manner: Certain of those robbers went up to the city, as if they were going to worship God, while they had daggers under their garments, and by thus mingling themselves among the multitude they slew Jonathan and as this murder was never avenged, the robbers went up with the greatest security at the festivals after this time; and having weapons concealed in like manner as before, and mingling themselves among the multitude, they slew certain of their own enemies, and were subservient to other men for money; and slew others, not only in remote parts of the city, but in the temple itself also; for they had the boldness to murder men there, without thinking of the impiety of which they were guilty. And this seems to me to have been the reason why God, out of his hatred of these men's wickedness, rejected our city; and as for the temple, he no longer esteemed it sufficiently pure for him to inhabit therein, but brought the Romans upon us, and threw a fire upon the city to purge it; and brought upon us, our wives, and children, slavery, as desirous to make us wiser by our calamities.

Josephus, Ant. 20; 8:9

9. Now when Porcius Festus was sent as successor to Felix by Nero, the principal of the Jewish

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inhabitants of Caesarea went up to Rome to accuse Felix; and he had certainly been brought to punishment, unless Nero had yielded to the importunate solicitations of his brother Pallas, who was at that time had in the greatest honour by him. Two of the principal Syrians in Caesarea persuaded Burrhus, who was Nero's tutor, and secretary for his Greek epistles, by giving him a great sum of money, to disannul that equality of the Jewish privileges of citizens which they hitherto enjoyed. So Burrhus, by his solicitations, obtained leave of the emperor that an epistle should be written to that purpose. This epistle became the occasion of the following miseries that befell our nation; for when the Jews of Caesarea were informed of the contents of this epistle to the Syrians, they were more disorderly than before, till a war was kindled.