

# Acts 23:16

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And when Paul's sister's son heard of their lying in wait, he went and entered into the castle, and told Paul.

## Analysis

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Paul's nephew's discovery of the plot demonstrates God's providential protection through natural means. The detail that Paul's sister's son 'heard of their lying in wait' suggests either divine revelation or the young man's access to Jewish circles discussing the conspiracy. God's sovereignty orchestrated protection through family connections and timely intelligence.

## Historical Context

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This is the only biblical mention of Paul's sister or nephew, suggesting Paul maintained family ties in Jerusalem despite his conversion. His nephew's access both to the conspiracy's details and to Paul in the fortress shows Providence at work.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

## Study Questions

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1. How has God protected you through unexpected sources or family connections you hadn't anticipated?

2. What does this teach about God's care for details in preserving His servants for their appointed work?

## Interlinear Text

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Ἀκούσας	δὲ	ὁ	υἱὸς	τῆς	ἀδελφῆς	Παύλῳ	τό
<b>heard</b>	<b>And</b>	G3588	<b>son</b>	G3588	<b>sister's</b>	<b>Paul</b>	G3588
G191	G1161		G5207		G79	G3972	
ἔνεδρον	παραγενόμενος	καὶ	εἰσελθὼν	εἰς	τὴν		
<b>of their lying in wait</b>	<b>he went</b>	<b>and</b>	<b>entered</b>	<b>into</b>	G3588		
G1749	G3854	G2532	G1525	G1519			
παρεμβολὴν	ἀπήγγειλεν	τῷ	Παύλῳ				
<b>the castle</b>	<b>and told</b>	G3588	<b>Paul</b>				
G3925	G518		G3972				

## Additional Cross-References

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**Acts 23:10** (References Paul): And when there arose a great dissension, the chief captain, fearing lest Paul should have been pulled in pieces of them, commanded the soldiers to go down, and to take him by force from among them, and to bring him into the castle.