

Acts 24:1

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And after five days Ananias the high priest descended with the elders, and with a certain orator named Tertullus, who informed the governor against Paul.

Analysis

The high priest Ananias's personal descent to Caesarea demonstrates the Jewish leadership's determination to prosecute Paul. Hiring Tertullus, a professional rhetorician (likely Roman or Hellenized), shows their strategic approach using someone skilled in Roman legal oratory. The 'five days' indicates urgent pursuit, revealing how seriously they viewed Paul as a threat to their religious system.

Historical Context

Tertullus's Latin name suggests he was a professional advocate familiar with Roman legal procedures. Jewish leaders regularly hired such advocates for important Roman proceedings, showing the interface between Jewish and Roman legal cultures.

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How do you respond when opposition becomes organized, professional, and well-resourced?
2. What does this teach about the spiritual significance of your witness when it provokes such determined opposition?

Interlinear Text

μετὰ δὲ πέντε ἡμέρας κατέβη ὁ ἀρχιερεὺς Ἀνανίας
after **And** **five** **days** **descended** **G3588** **the high priest** **Ananias**
G3326 G1161 G4002 G2250 G2597 G749 G367

μετὰ τῶν πρεσβυτέρων καὶ ὥρτορος Τερτύλλου
after **G3588** **the elders** **and** **orator** **named Tertullus**
G3326 G4245 G2532 G4489 G5061

τινός οἵτινες ἐνεφάνισαν τῷ ἡγεμόνι κατὰ τοῦ
with a certain **who** **informed** **G3588** **the governor** **against** **G3588**
G5100 G3748 G1718 G2232 G2596

Παύλου

Paul
G3972

Additional Cross-References

Acts 23:2 (Parallel theme): And the high priest Ananias commanded them that stood by him to smite him on the mouth.

Acts 25:2 (References Paul): Then the high priest and the chief of the Jews informed him against Paul, and besought him,

Acts 24:11 (Parallel theme): Because that thou mayest understand, that there are yet but twelve days since I went up to Jerusalem for to worship.

Acts 21:27 (Parallel theme): And when the seven days were almost ended, the Jews which were of Asia, when they saw him in the temple, stirred up all the people, and laid hands on him,

Acts 23:30 (Parallel theme): And when it was told me how that the Jews laid wait for the man, I sent straightway to thee, and gave commandment to his accusers also to say before thee what they had against him. Farewell.

Acts 23:24 (References Paul): And provide them beasts, that they may set Paul on, and bring him safe unto Felix the governor.

Acts 23:35 (Parallel theme): I will hear thee, said he, when thine accusers are also come. And he commanded him to be kept in Herod's judgment hall.

Psalms 11:2 (Parallel theme): For, lo, the wicked bend their bow, they make ready their arrow upon the string, that they may privily shoot at the upright in heart.