

Acts 24:27

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But after two years Porcius Festus came into Felix' room: and Felix, willing to shew the Jews a pleasure, left Paul bound.

Analysis

Felix's replacement by Porcius Festus after 'two years' ended Paul's Caesarean custody's first phase. Felix's final act - leaving Paul bound 'willing to shew the Jews a pleasure' - epitomized political expediency over justice. This injustice, though frustrating, served God's purpose by keeping Paul in Caesarea where he would appeal to Caesar, ultimately reaching Rome as prophesied.

Historical Context

Felix was recalled to Rome in AD 60 after Jewish complaints about his corrupt administration. Leaving Paul imprisoned curried favor with Jewish leaders whom Felix needed to testify favorably about his governorship.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. How do you trust God's sovereignty when justice is sacrificed for political convenience?

2. What does this teach about God's ability to use even corrupt officials' unjust actions to accomplish His purposes?

Interlinear Text

Διετίας	δὲ	πληρωθείσης	ἔλαβεν	διάδοχον	ὁ	
Two years	however	having been completed	received	a successor		G3588
G1333	G1161	G4137	G2983	G1240		
Φῆλιξ	Πόρκιον	Φῆστον	θέλων	τε	χάριτα	καταθέσθαι
Felix	Porcius	Festus	wishing	and	favor	to gain
G5344	G4201	G5347	G2309	G5037	G5485	G2698
τοῖς	Ἰουδαίοις	ὁ	Φῆλιξ	κατέλιπε	τὸν	Παῦλον
with the	Jews		Felix	left		Paul
G3588	G2453	G3588	G5344	G2641	G3588	G3972
δεδεμένον						
imprisoned						
G1210						

Additional Cross-References

Acts 25:9 (References Paul): But Festus, willing to do the Jews a pleasure, answered Paul, and said, Wilt thou go up to Jerusalem, and there be judged of these things before me?

Acts 25:14 (References Paul): And when they had been there many days, Festus declared Paul's cause unto the king, saying, There is a certain man left in bonds by Felix:

Acts 25:1 (Parallel theme): Now when Festus was come into the province, after three days he ascended from Caesarea to Jerusalem.

Acts 12:3 (Parallel theme): And because he saw it pleased the Jews, he proceeded further to take Peter also. (Then were the days of unleavened bread.)

Mark 15:15 (Parallel theme): And so Pilate, willing to content the people, released Barabbas unto them, and delivered Jesus, when he had scourged him, to be crucified.

Acts 26:32 (Parallel theme): Then said Agrippa unto Festus, This man might have been set at liberty, if he had not appealed unto Caesar.

Galatians 1:10 (Parallel theme): For do I now persuade men, or God? or do I seek to please men? for if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ.

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