

# Acts 24:4

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Notwithstanding, that I be not further tedious unto thee, I pray thee that thou wouldest hear us of thy clemency a few words.

## Analysis

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'That I be not further tedious unto thee, I pray thee that thou wouldest hear us of thy clemency a few words.' Tertullus's feigned brevity was a rhetorical technique. The appeal to 'clemency' sought favorable disposition before presenting charges.

## Historical Context

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Roman legal rhetoric valued brevity as a virtue. Tertullus's promise of few words prepared for concentrated accusation.

## Related Passages

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**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

**Psalms 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

## Study Questions

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1. How do promises of brevity sometimes introduce extended attacks?

2. What does this teach about discerning rhetorical techniques?

## Interlinear Text

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ἵνα	δὲ	μὴ	ἐπὶ	πλεῖον	σε	ἐγκόπτω	παρακαλῶ
G2443	<b>Notwithstanding</b>	G3361	G1909	<b>I be</b>	<b>thee</b>	<b>tedious</b>	<b>I pray</b>
	G1161			G4119	G4571	G1465	G3870
ἀκοῦσαί	σε	ἡμῶν	συντόμως	τῇ	σῇ	ἐπιεικείᾳ	
<b>that thou wouldst hear</b>	<b>thee</b>	<b>us</b>	<b>a few words</b>	G3588	<b>of thy</b>	<b>clemency</b>	
G191	G4571	G2257	G4935		G4674	G1932	

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