

Acts 25:26

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Of whom I have no certain thing to write unto my lord.
Wherefore I have brought him forth before you, and specially
before thee, O king Agrippa, that, after examination had, I
might have somewhat to write.

Analysis

Of whom I have no certain thing to write unto my lord—Festus faces a bureaucratic dilemma: *περὶ οὗ ἀσφαλές τι γράψαι τῷ κυρίῳ οὐκ ἔχω* (*peri hou asphales ti grapsai tō kyriō ouk echō*, 'concerning whom I have nothing reliable to write to the lord'). **My lord** refers to Caesar (using *kyrios*, 'lord,' the title emperors increasingly claimed). Festus must send formal charges (*liber dimissorius*) with the appeal, but he has none—Jewish accusations proved empty, and he found no crime.

Wherefore I have brought him forth before you, and specially before thee, O king Agrippa, that, after examination had, I might have somewhat to write—Festus seeks help. The address *μάλιστα ἐπὶ σοῦ, βασιλεῦ Ἀγρίππα* (*malista epi sou, basileu Agrippa*, 'especially before you, King Agrippa') appeals to Agrippa's Jewish expertise. The purpose: *ὅπως τῆς ἀνακρίσεως γενομένης σχῶ τί γράψω* (*hopōs tēs anakriseōs genomenēs schō ti grapsō*, 'so that after examination I might have something to write'). Ironically, Festus asks Agrippa to formulate charges against an innocent man.

Historical Context

Roman legal procedure required specific charges when sending appeals to Caesar. A governor who sent a prisoner without clear accusations would appear

incompetent and might face consequences. Festus's request to Agrippa reveals both his administrative bind and his political calculation—involving the Jewish king shares responsibility and provides expert consultation. The scene is ironic: two authorities who find Paul innocent strategize how to write charges against him. Yet God uses even this to give Paul another platform for gospel proclamation.

Related Passages

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. What does Festus's dilemma—having to write charges against a man he knows is innocent—reveal about how political necessity can corrupt justice?
2. How does the irony of authorities seeking charges against an innocent Paul parallel Pilate's situation with Jesus?
3. In what ways does this passage comfort Christians facing unjust accusations—even authorities who oppose us often know we've done no wrong?

Interlinear Text

περὶ οὗ ἀσφαλές τί γράψαι τῷ κυρίῳ οὐκ
Of whom certain somewhat to write G3588 **unto my lord no**
G4012 G3739 G804 G5100 G1125 G2962 G3756

σχῶ διὸ προήγαγον αὐτὸν ἐπὶ ὑμῶν καὶ μάλιστα
I have Wherefore I have brought him before you and specially
G2192 G1352 G4254 G846 G1909 G5216 G2532 G3122

ἐπὶ σοῦ βασιλεῦ Ἀγρίππα ὅπως τῆς ἀνακρίσεως
before thee O king Agrippa that G3588 **after examination**
G1909 G4675 G935 G67 G3704 G351

γενομένης σχῶ τί γράψαι
had I have somewhat to write
G1096 G2192 G5100 G1125

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