

# Acts 26:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

I think myself happy, king Agrippa, because I shall answer for myself this day before thee touching all the things whereof I am accused of the Jews:

## Analysis

**I think myself happy, king Agrippa** (Greek: ἐμαυτὸν μακάριον ἡγοῦμαι, emauton makarion hēgoumai)—Paul employs the classical rhetorical strategy of *captatio benevolentiae* (capturing goodwill), yet with genuine sincerity. The word *makarion* means "blessed" or "fortunate," the same word Jesus used in the Beatitudes. Paul's gladness stems not from flattery but from providence: Agrippa's Jewish education and familiarity with Messianic prophecy made him uniquely qualified to judge Paul's case.

**I shall answer for myself** (Greek: ἀπολογεῖσθαι, apologizeisthai)—the root of our word "apologetics." Paul stands in the tradition of biblical witnesses who defended faith before rulers (Daniel before Nebuchadnezzar, Peter before the Sanhedrin). **Touching all the things whereof I am accused of the Jews**—the irony is profound: a Jew accused by Jews, a Pharisee persecuted by Pharisees, standing before a half-Jewish king to defend the hope of Israel (Acts 26:6-7). His trial fulfills Jesus's prophecy that disciples would testify "before governors and kings" (Matthew 10:18).

## Historical Context

Agrippa II (AD 27-93) was great-grandson of Herod the Great and son of Herod Agrippa I (Acts 12). Educated in Rome, he held nominal authority over temple affairs and appointed high priests, making him particularly competent to evaluate

charges of Jewish law violations. This defense occurred circa AD 59-60 in Caesarea.

## 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 does Paul's courtroom demeanor model gracious yet uncompromising witness before hostile authorities?
2. What does Paul's gladness to defend his faith teach about viewing persecution as divine opportunity rather than mere misfortune?

## Interlinear Text

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Περὶ	πάντων	ὧν	ἐγκαλοῦμαι	ὑπὸ	Ἰουδαίων
<b>touching</b>	<b>all the things</b>	<b>whereof</b>	<b>I am accused</b>	<b>of</b>	<b>the Jews</b>
G4012	G3956	G3739	G1458	G5259	G2453
βασιλεῦ	Ἄγριππα	ἵγημαι	έμαυτὸν	μακάριον	μέλλων
<b>king</b>	<b>Agrippa</b>	<b>I think</b>	<b>myself</b>	<b>happy</b>	<b>because I shall</b>
G935	G667	G2233	G1683	G3107	G3195
ἀπολογεῖσθαι	ἐπὶ	σοῦ	σήμερον		
<b>answer for myself</b>	<b>before</b>	<b>thee</b>	<b>this day</b>		
G626	G1909	G4675	G4594		

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