

After saying farewell to the Ephesian elders, Paul sailed straight to the island of Kos. The next day they reached Rhodes and then went to Patara.



2 Here Paul and his companions boarded a ship heading for the coast of Phoenicia



3 They sighted the island of Cyprus, passing it on their left, then headed for the harbour of Tyre, in Syria. The ship docked for a while to unload its cargo.



4 Paul and his companions went ashore, found the local believers, and stayed with them a week. These believers prophesied through the Holy Spirit that Paul should not go on to Jerusalem.



5 When they returned to the ship the entire congregation, including women and children, left the city and came to the shore with them. There they knelt, prayed, and said their farewells.



6 The next stop after leaving Tyre was Ptolemais, where they greeted the Christians there and stayed for one day before sailing on to Caesarea.



At Caesarea Paul stayed at the home of Philip the Evangelist, one of the seven men who had been chosen to be deacons and distribute food. He had four unmarried daughters who had the gift of prophecy.



8 Several days later, a prophet named Agabus arrived from Judea. He took Paul's belt, and bound his own feet and hands with it. He then said, 'The Holy Spirit declares that the owner of this belt will be bound by the Jewish leaders in Jerusalem and turned over to the Gentiles.'



9 When Paul's travelling companions and the local believers heard this, they begged Paul not to go on to Jerusalem.



10 But Paul replied, 'Why all this weeping? You are breaking my heart! I am ready not only to be jailed at Jerusalem but even to die for the sake of the Lord Jesus.' Paul refused to be persuaded so they gave up and said, 'The Lord's will be done.'



11 They then packed up and went to Jerusalem accompanied by some of the believers in Caesarea.



12 When they arrived in Jerusalem they got a warm welcome from the Christians there.



The next day, Paul met with James, and all the elders of the Jerusalem church and gave a detailed account of the things God had done among the Gentiles through his ministry.



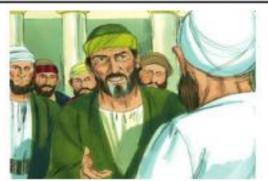
14 After hearing this, they praised God but James warned Paul that many Jewish believers in Jerusalem had been told that Paul was teaching Jews who live among the Gentiles to turn their backs on the laws of Moses



15 James had a plan for Paul to prove that these rumours were false. He suggested Paul went to the Temple with four men who had taken Nazarite of vows of purification and join them in the ceremony.



16 Paul agreed and the next day went to the Temple with the four men. He publicly announced the date when their vows would end and sacrifices would be offered for each of them. Paul showed his support for them by paying for them to have their heads ritually shaved. To find out what happened next download 'Paul faces a riot in Jerusalem' from Free Bible images.



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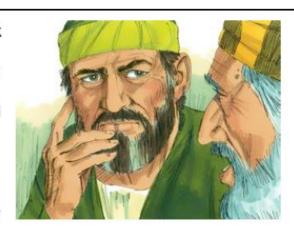


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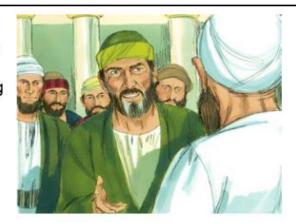
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1 When Paul arrived back in Jerusalem, he was warned by James there were false rumours spreading that Paul had been teaching Jews who live among the Gentiles to turn their backs on the laws of Moses and ignore other Jewish customs.



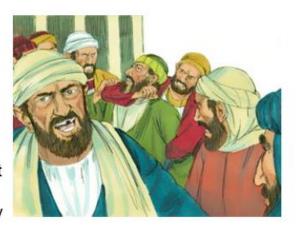
2 To disprove these rumours Paul had gone to the temple with four men who were following the Jewish custom of Purification.



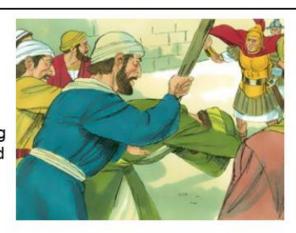
3 Seven days later some
Jews from Asia saw
Paul with Trophimus, a
Gentile from
Ephesus, and they
mistakenly assumed
Paul had taken him into
a part of the Temple
gentiles were forbidden
to enter. They quickly
gathered a mob.



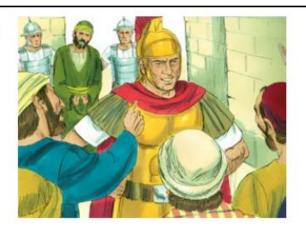
They grabbed
Paul yelling, 'Men of
Israel, help us! This is
the man who preaches
against our people and
tells everybody to
disobey the Jewish
laws. He speaks against
the Temple and even
defiles this holy place by
bringing in Gentiles.'



5 Paul was grabbed and dragged out of the Temple, and immediately the gates were closed behind him. As they were trying to kill him, word reached the commander of the Roman regiment that Jerusalem was in an uproar. He immediately called out his soldiers and officers and ran down among the crowd.



6 When the mob saw the commander and the troops coming, they stopped beating Paul. The commander arrested Paul, had him bound with two chains, and ordered that he be taken to the fortress. The crowd followed behind, shouting, 'Kill him, kill him!'



7 As Paul was about to be taken inside, the commander asked, 'Aren't you the Egyptian who led a rebellion some time ago and took 4,000 rebels out into the desert?'



'No,' Paul replied, 'I am a Jew and a citizen of Tarsus in Cilicia. Please, let me talk to these people.'
The commander agreed and the crowd went silent.