

[ Lessons From Felix ]

*Acts 24:22-27*

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[ Lessons From Felix ]

*Will we learn them?*

Gospel is universal ... All need it  
 Gospel is rational ... Reason with it  
 Courageously speak what people need  
 Truth should terrify the lost  
 Do not delay ... Obey now!

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[ Gospel is Universal, All Need It ]

Matthew 28:19

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[ The Gospel is for All ]

For both Jew and Gentile, *Romans 1:16*  
 Felix & Drusilla:  
 Felix- a Greek, a slave, a Governor  
 Drusilla- a Jew, a Princess, a Queen  
 Paul's audience- a Greek, a Jew, a  
 slave, a ruler (Governor), Royalty




[ Gospel is for All - All Need It ]

Felix & Drusilla needed it, *Acts 24:24*  
 "With every kind of cruelty & lust, he exercised the  
 authority of a king with the temper of a slave." (Tacitus)  
*Proverbs 19:10*  
*An Adulteress*  
 Everybody Needs It  
 All have sinned - *Romans 3:23*  
 All to be judged - *Acts 17:30, 2 Corinthians*  
*5:10.*





[ Gospel is Rational - Reason With It ]

Acts 24:25

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[ The gospel is rational ]


Words of truth and reason,  
*Acts 26:24-26*  
 Not devised by man, *Isaiah 55:8-9*  
 Wisdom & power of God, *1 Corinthians 1:18-25*



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[ Must reason from the gospel ]

To persuade sinners, *Acts 24:25; 2 Corinthians 5:11*  
 From the scriptures, *Acts 17:2-3 not our wisdom*



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[ Courageously Speak What People Need ]

Acts 28:31

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[ Address needs of audience ]

- Seutonius and Tacitus (Roman Historians) Also Mention Felix
- "Claudius was equally fond of Felix, giving him the command of cohorts and of troops of horse, as well as of the province of Judaea; and he became the husband of three queens."
- Seutonius - Lives of the Twelve Caesars - Claudius 28

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[ Address needs of audience ]

- "Not equally moderate was his brother, surnamed Felix, who had for some time been governor of Judaea, and thought that he could do any evil act with impunity, backed up as he was by such power."
- Tacitus Annals - Book 12

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[ Address needs of audience ]

The hearer, Felix, one who might have executed Paul

*Yet*  
 Paul had the COURAGE to speak, *Ephesians 6:19-20*  
*Utterance and boldness*

*And he preached faith in Christ Jesus*  
 Paul preached the gospel, what they needed to hear, not what they wanted to hear *1 Corinthians 9:16*  
*All of us, Galatians 6:10*

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## [Address needs of audience]

Righteousness,  
*The condition or state of being accepted or approved by God*

Felix and Drusilla were in sin *Romans 3:23*

Spoke of faith in Christ in order to obtain righteousness, *Romans 3:21-22*  
*Could you imagine Paul NOT telling them HOW to become righteous !*

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## [Address needs of audience]

Expose Sin *Ephesians 5:11.*

Self-control, *Adultery, Cruelty, Lust*  
"The virtue of one who masters his desires and passions, esp. his sensual appetites."  
(Thayer, 167)  
We need self-control to do right thing, *2 Peter 1:6 (James 4:17) 1 Corinthians 9:25*  
Repentance applied (*Acts 26:20*)

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## [Address needs of audience]

Consequences of Sin

Judgment to come, *Acts 17:30-31*  
We also face that day, *Romans 14:12*  
Fearful thing to be unprepared,  
*Hebrews 10:31*

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## [Truth Should Terrify The Lost]

2 Thessalonians 1:7-8

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## [God's truth terrifies sinners]

A point of decision that has eternal results, *Acts 24:25*

"Thrown into fear" (Thayer, 209)  
Fear leading to obedience, *Acts 10:35*  
Fear leading to denial & rejection of truth  
... lost, *John 3:19-21*



## [Do Not Delay... Obey Now]

2 Corinthians 6:2

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## Do Not Delay

- We do not know what tomorrow will bring James 4:14
- Felix - Acts 24:26-27, still with Drusilla, called to Rome to answer to Nero, divorces Drusilla, marries a third time, therefore doubtful he obeyed the gospel, do not know his fate after seeing Nero.

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## Do Not Delay

- Drusilla - Probably had not obeyed the Gospel by the end of two years. Died in the eruption of Vesuvius in 79 AD, at the approximate age of 37 to 40
- We do not know whether either one had another opportunity to obey the Gospel

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