

The Mistakes Of Felix

Acts 24:24-26

Felix: "when I have a convenient season, I will call thee unto me."

Confrontation Of Two Kinds Of Greatness

➤ Felix

- Pomp, splendor, authority, crown, robe, wealth & arrogance.
- Atrocities / Cruelties
- Drusilla, his third wife.
- Judge and Jury of Paul.

➤ Paul

- No pomp, vanity, pride or arrogance. **1 Cor. 2**
- Conscience undefiled. (**Acts 23:1**)
- Child of the King. **1 Tim. 6:15**
- Spiritual Riches. **Eph. 1,2,3**
- Ambassador of Christ. **2 Cor. 5**
- Promised the Crown of Righteousness. **2 Tim. 4:6**
- Confident trust in God. **2 Cor. 1:9**

Paul Appealed To Reason

- Reason allows man to weigh evidence and draw proper conclusions. (cf. **Isa. 1:18; Rom. 12:2**)
Truth is reasonable!
 - **Acts 17:2; Acts 6:10**
- Prejudice keeps one from examining evidence.
 - Emotionalism. (cf. **Acts 19:28**)
 - Philosophy. (**Col. 2:8; Cf. Acts 17:16-21**)

Paul Reasoned From The Scriptures Cf. Acts 17:2-3

- What was the topic?
 - Social, Cultural, Political or Financial?
 - Small talk or entertainment?
- Paul preached what was needed without fear or compromise! (Cf. **Gal. 1:10; Acts 20:21,27; Gal. 4:16**)
- Truth makes free. (**Jno. 8:32**)

Paul Reasoned Of Righteousness

- Gospel makes one righteous. (**Rom. 1:16-17; Rom. 3:23**)
 - Paul preached the commandments of the gospel. (**Acts. 10:34-35; cf. Deut. 6:25; Ps. 119:172; Tit. 2:11ff**)

Paul Reasoned Of Self-Control

- Needed lesson to Felix & Drusilla.
- Paul exercised self-control. (**Phil. 3:3ff; 4:11-12; Cf. 2 Tim. 1:12; 1 Cor. 9:25-27**)
 - Paul had become the offscouring of all things to tell of God's love. (**2 Cor. 4:7ff; 11-13; 11:23ff**)

Paul Reasoned Of The Judgment To Come

The Day of Judgment Is Certain

- The testimony of Solomon. Eccl. 12:13-14
- The testimony of Jesus. Mt. 11:20-24; 12:36-37; 25:31-46
- The testimony of Paul. 2 Cor. 5:10; Acts 17:30-31
- The testimony of Peter. 1 Pet. 1:17; 4:17-18; 2 Pet. 3:10
- The testimony of John. 1 Jno. 4:17; Rev. 20:12-14

THE JUDGE... The Highest Court

- The judge will be God. Rom. 2:16
- We know He will be no respecter of persons. Rom. 2:11
- Yet, He is long suffering... 2 Pet. 3:9

THE JUDGE... The Highest Court

- We will be judged through Jesus Christ.
 - Rom. 2:16 "...When God shall judge the secrets of men... by Jesus Christ."
 - Acts 17:31.. "By that man whom he hath ordained." (Cf. Jno. 5:22; 2 Cor. 5:10; 2 Tim. 4:1)
 - Acts 17:31 "Whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead."

THE BASIS OF THE JUDGMENT

- Our deeds... "the things done in the body." 2 Cor. 5:10
- Our words... Mt. 12:36-37
- Even our secret things will be judged. Rom. 2:16

Righteousness, Self-Control & The Judgment To Come...

- Felix Trembles ...
 - "He was terrified." Acts 24:25
 - "It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God." Heb 10:31

The Choice Is Ours.

- RIGHTEOUSNESS...
 - Rom. 2:7.. "to them that by patience in well-doing seek for glory and honor and incorruption, eternal life:"
- WICKEDNESS...
 - Rom. 2:8.. "...unto them that are factious, and obey not the truth, but obey unrighteousness, shall be wrath and indignation, tribulation and anguish, upon every soul of man that worketh evil, of the Jew first, and also of the Greek:"

The sentence will be final and irrevocable cf. Lk. 16:19-31

- There will be no possibility of appealing to a higher court.
- There will be no termination of the sentence; it will be for all eternity.

Indeed it will be a great day

- The Lord shall descend from heaven.
Acts 1:11; 1 Thess 4:16
- The dead shall be raised, and the living changed.
1 Cor. 15:52; Jno. 5:28-29
- The books shall be opened. Rev. 20:12-14

Felix Would Stand Before God...

- Felix the Judge would stand before the highest tribunal known.
 - God will not be influenced by bribes
 - Every detail will be known.

➤ Felix trembled!!!

Felix Has A Choice...

- If Felix obeyed the gospel...
 - Lose the source of bribes and extortions.
 - Lose his office, pomp and ceremony.
 - Lay aside his robe, crown, prestige and power.
 - Lose his friends, become ridiculed.
 - Give up his wife and adulterous union. (cf. Ezra 10).
- Felix had to consider the cost of discipleship. (Lk. 14:25-33)

Two Paths From Which To Choose

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Obedience <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Salvation (Heb. 5:8-9) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Disobedience <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Continue as governor. ▪ Judge of others. ▪ Lavish robes. ▪ Dominion over subjects. ➤ BUT, He still must die and face the judgment of God! |
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Mistake Of Felix ...

- Acts 24:25 *"Go thy way for this time; and when I have a convenient season, I will call thee unto me."*
- Felix died as he had lived...
 - He lived and died IN SIN !

You Have A Choice... Don't Make The Same Mistake !

- If YOU would gain the favor of God, He must be first in your life!
- *Mt. 6:33 "But seek ye first his kingdom, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."*