

The Unseen Hand of God

Acts 21:37-22:29

Proverbs 12:1: Why might we “_____” correction?
What is it like to be _____ by God?

Setting

Paul came to Jerusalem, the center of Judaism

He was bringing a gift of money from _____ Christians to _____ Christians
Accompanied by several _____ Christians

Paul was anticipating trouble

_____ - _____ Jews would attack him
_____ would reject the Gentiles and their gift

Acts 21:37-22:29

21:37-22:2: Paul got permission to _____ to the crowd

_____ got the attention of the commander
Thought he was an _____ rebellion leader
Perhaps the commander thought the people also were confused about Paul → let Paul _____
“Brothers and _____”: perhaps some in the crowd were Jewish leaders (Sanhedrin)
_____ got the attention of the Jewish crowd

3-5: Paul persecuted the Way (Jesus) [same as the _____]

Paul told the _____ of God’s work in his life
Paul’s (Saul) story started where _____
He emphasized what made them _____
Jewish, grew up in Jerusalem, trained by a great Rabbi in the Law, _____ for God

Even perhaps a _____ from their perspective
Active persecutor of “the _____” (Christianity)

6-11: Jesus _____ Paul’s attack on the church

_____ (light & voice from heaven) stopped Paul
It was actually _____ of Nazareth (God)
Paul was attacking _____ when attacking the _____
Paul asked for _____: “What shall I do, Lord?”
God had an appointed _____ for Paul

12-16: Paul was healed and baptized by a practicing _____

Emphasized Ananias’ good standing among _____
Message to Paul:

God of the _____ appointed Paul for a task
Appointed to see & hear the _____ (Jesus)
Appointed to be a _____ to “all people”
Commanded to be baptized: a conversion into _____

17-21: Jesus _____ Paul again: “Go to the Gentiles”

While praying in the _____ (perhaps 3 years later)
Jesus appeared again: “Leave _____!”
Why? The Jews in Jerusalem won’t _____ to you
Paul _____: he wanted to reach his own people
Jesus: They won’t _____ to you
God’s plan: Go to the far away _____

22-29: Chaos, to be flogged, yet he was rescued by _____

People were furious about _____ to Paul
Paul did not _____ the upsetting part of his story
Paul’s _____-citizenship saved him

The Big Idea:

**God is working _____ together
through natural and _____ means
in sometimes _____ ways
to form His Kingdom of peoples from all _____
despite intense _____**

Application

Seek _____ from God: Proverbs 12:1

His ways must _____ be contrary to our inclinations and expectations

How will we _____ God’s correction of us?

- 1) Decide that His plan is _____ than ours: Psalm 16:2
- 2) Ask God to _____ us: Psalm 139:23-24
- 3) Pursue a _____ heart: Proverbs 12:1
- 4) Listen carefully to the _____ and follow

Boldly join God’s plan, even in _____

Acts 21:12-14

Opposing God is a _____ place to be! Acts 5:39

Joining God’s side is the only _____ place to be! Romans 8:31

Reflection

- How might God be correcting you? Sometimes we are opposing God. Sometimes we are ignoring God
- How is God using you?
- What appointed (perhaps new/expanded) role might God have for you in carrying out His plan?