

RUSSELL SANDERS

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THE APOSTLE PAUL – LESSON 43

LAST TRIP TO JERUSALEM – PART 1

TAKEN FROM THE TEMPLE AND BEATEN

When the Asian Jews saw Paul in the temple at Jerusalem, it caused a tremendous uproar in all the city. Due to a false accusation, the crowd drew him from the temple and closed it. They then set about beating him unmercifully with the intent of killing him. (Acts 21:30-40.)

Word of it got to the captain of the Roman soldiers. He sent centurions with their soldiers who rescued him from the frenzied mob. They bound him in chains and demanded to know who he was and what he had done. The people continued to cry out against him as he was taken to the chief captain. He was surprised that this Jew, Paul, was fluent in Greek. The captain thought he was an Egyptian insurrectionist about whom he had heard.

Paul identified himself as a Jew of Tarsus in the Roman province of Cilicia. He requested of the captain permission to speak under guard to the riotous mob. Permission was granted. Paul stood on the stairs, beckoned with his hand to the people and they went silent to hear him. He then addressed them in their native Hebrew tongue which only the Jews could understand. (v. 40.)

Tomorrow we shall see what became of his speech to them.