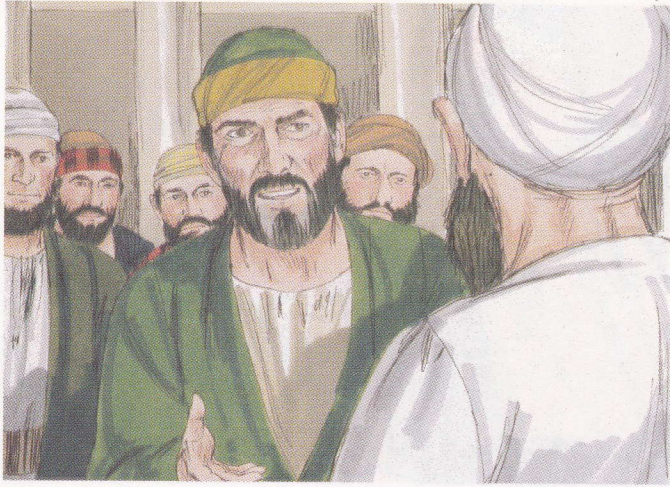
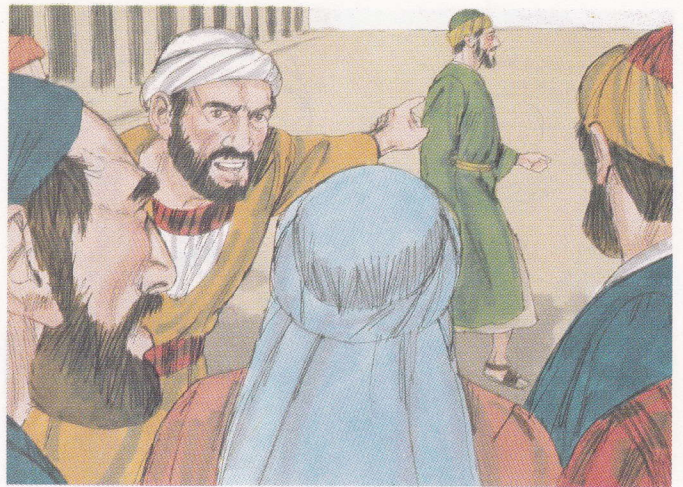


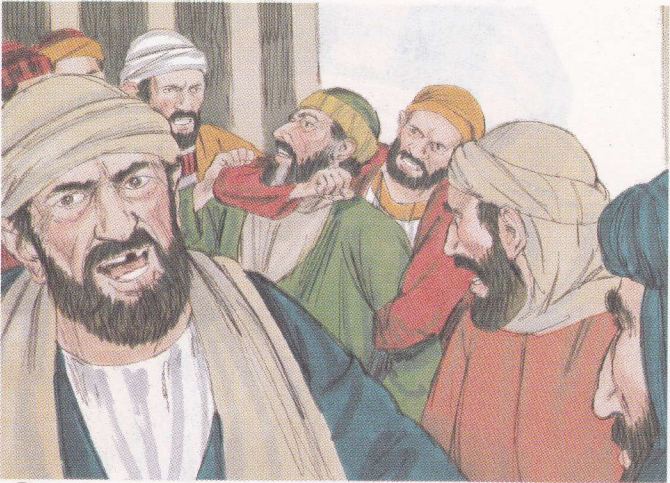
Paul Is Arrested



1 In Jerusalem, Paul had purified himself along with four other men. When the days of purification were nearly over, some Jews from the province of Asia saw Paul in the temple.



2 They stirred up the crowd and seized Paul. They shouted, "This is the man who teaches against our law and this temple! He has defiled the temple by bringing Greeks into it!"



3 People came running from all directions. They dragged Paul from the temple and shut the gates. Then they began to beat Paul, intending to kill him.



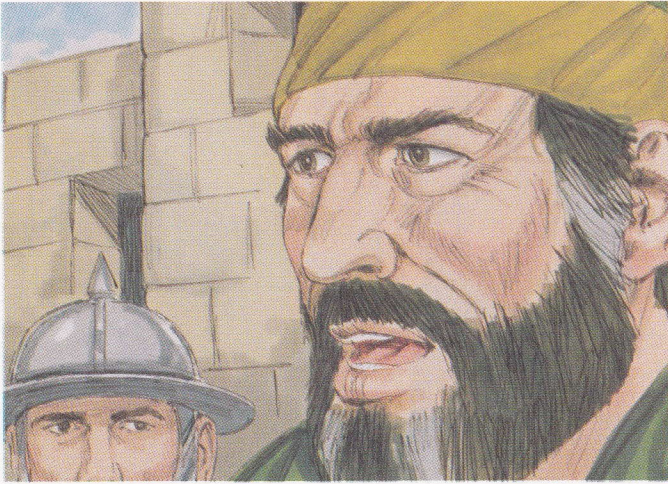
4 When the commander of the Roman troops heard there was trouble, he at once went to the place where they were beating Paul. He arrested Paul and had him bound with two chains.



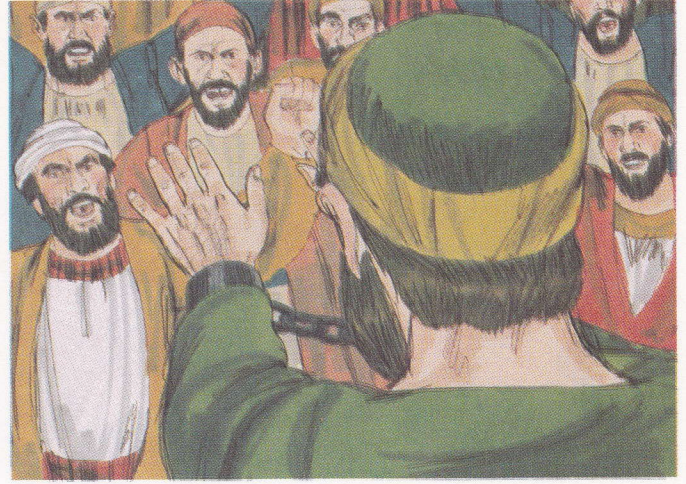
5 When the commander asked what Paul had done, some shouted one thing and some another. So he ordered Paul taken away. The crowds followed, shouting, "Away with this man!"



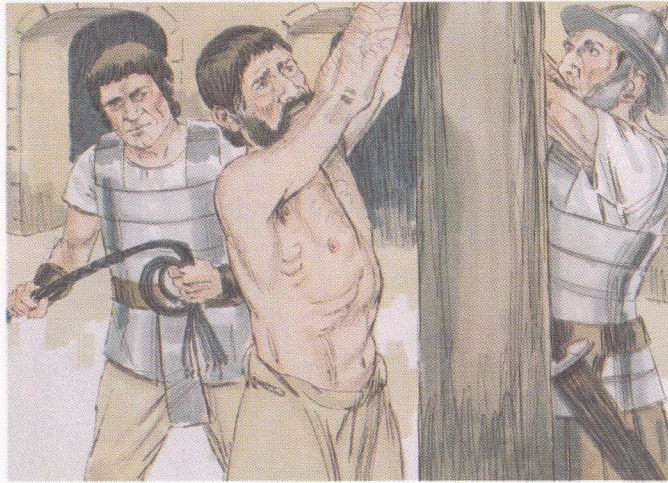
6 As they were about to carry him into the barracks, Paul asked the commander if he could speak to the people. Then Paul stood on the steps of the barracks and signaled for quiet.



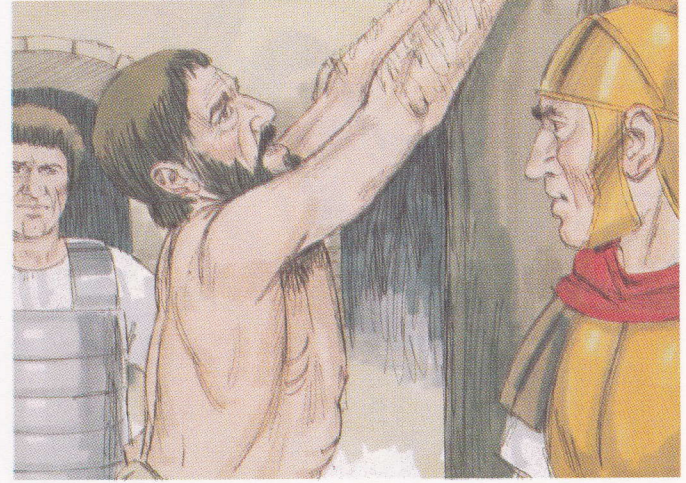
7 Paul said, “Brothers, listen to my defense.” He then told them how he had persecuted the followers of Jesus and how Jesus had appeared to him on the road to Damascus.



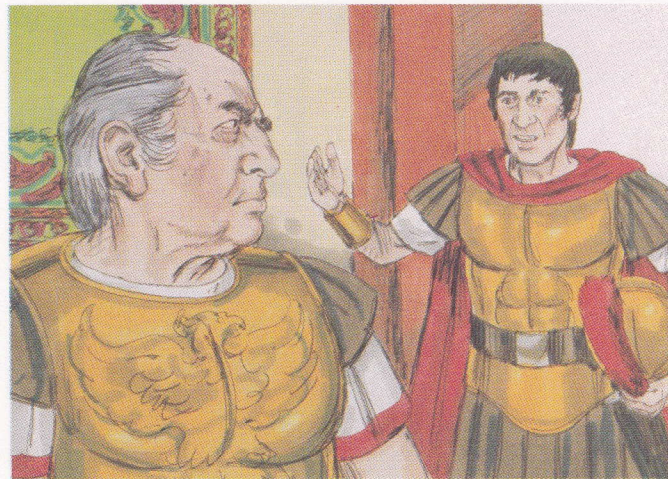
8 Then Paul said, “The Lord said to me, ‘Go. I will send you to the Gentiles.’” At the mention of Gentiles, the crowd shouted, “Get rid of this man. He is not fit to live.”



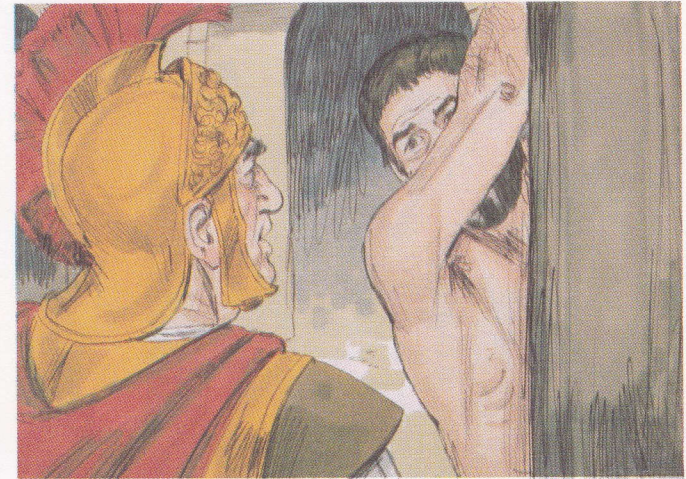
9 The crowd was shouting and throwing dust into the air. The commander ordered his men to beat Paul in order to find out why the people were so upset with him.



10 The soldiers stretched him out to beat him. But Paul asked the centurion in charge, “Is it legal to whip a Roman citizen who has not even been found guilty?”



11 When the centurion heard this, he went to the commander and reported it. “What are you going to do?” he asked. “This man is a Roman citizen!”



12 The commander asked Paul about this. “Yes, I was born a Roman citizen,” Paul replied. So they did not beat him but kept him under arrest until the next day.