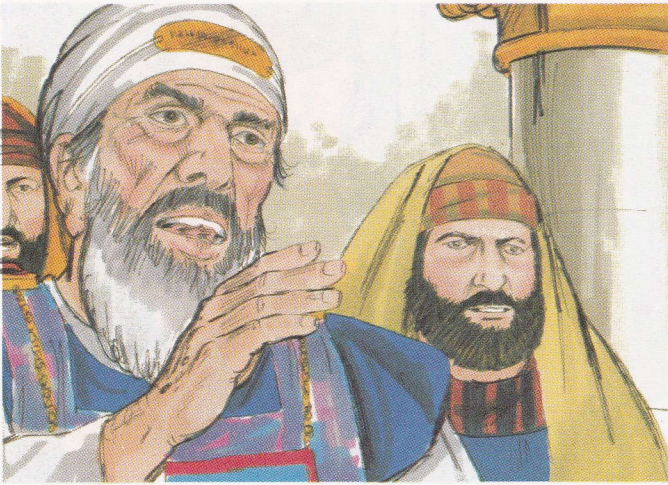
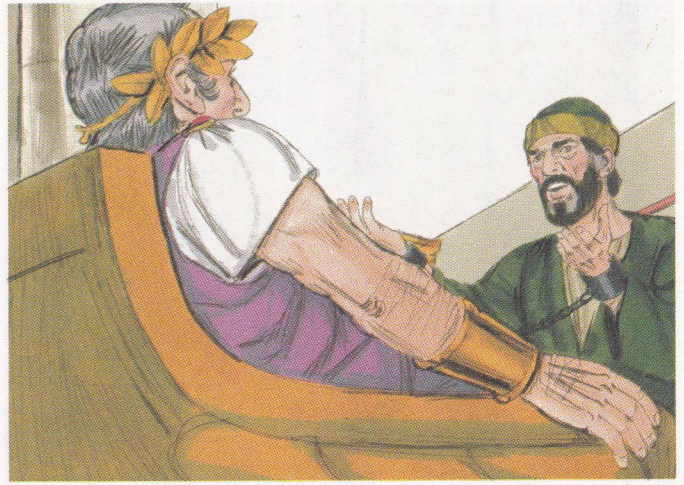


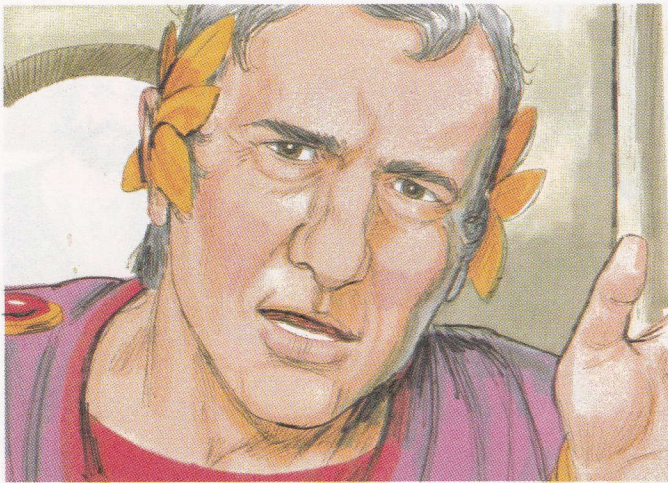
Paul Before Festus and Agrippa



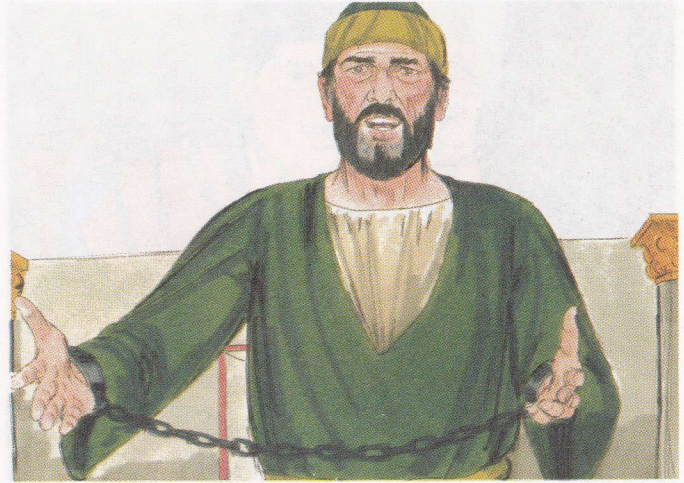
1 About two weeks after Festus replaced Felix as governor, Paul's enemies presented their case against Paul to Festus. They made many charges which they could not prove.



2 Paul defended himself by saying, "I have done nothing wrong against the law of the Jews or against the temple or against Caesar."



3 Festus wanted to do the Jewish leaders a favor. He asked Paul, "Are you willing to go up to Jerusalem and stand trial before me there on these charges?"



4 Paul answered, "I am now standing before Caesar's court, where I ought to be tried. No one has the right to hand me over to the Jews. I appeal to Caesar!"



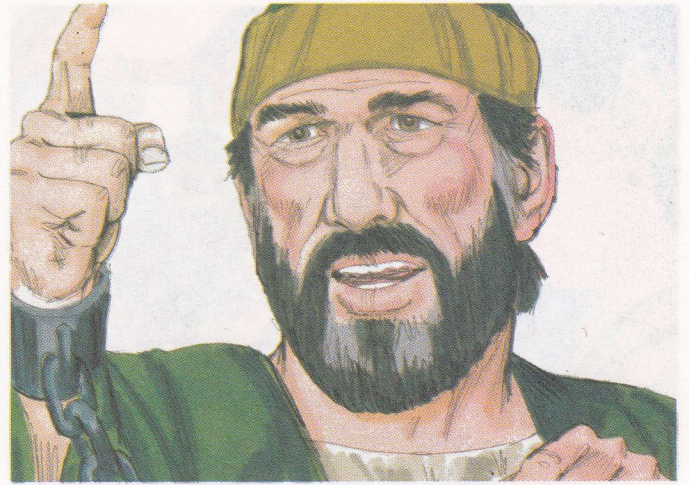
5 After Festus talked this over with his council, he said, "You have appealed to Caesar. To Caesar you will go!"



6 A few days later King Agrippa came with his wife Bernice to Caesarea to greet Governor Festus. When Agrippa heard about Paul, he said, "I would like to hear this man myself."



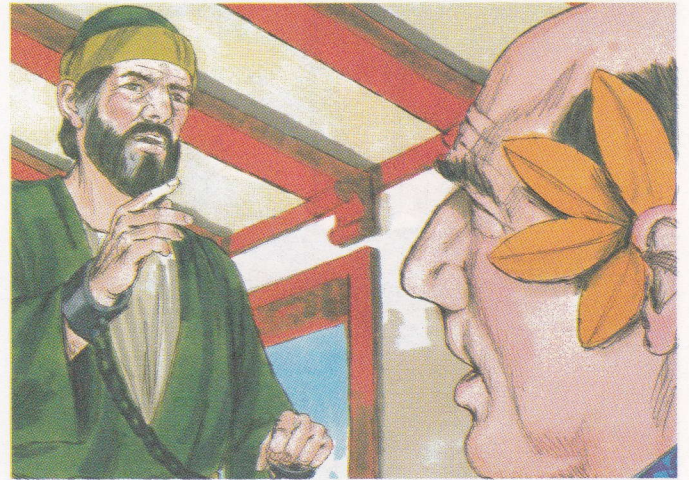
7 So the next day Festus brought Paul in before Agrippa and Bernice and all the important men of the city. Agrippa gave Paul permission to speak.



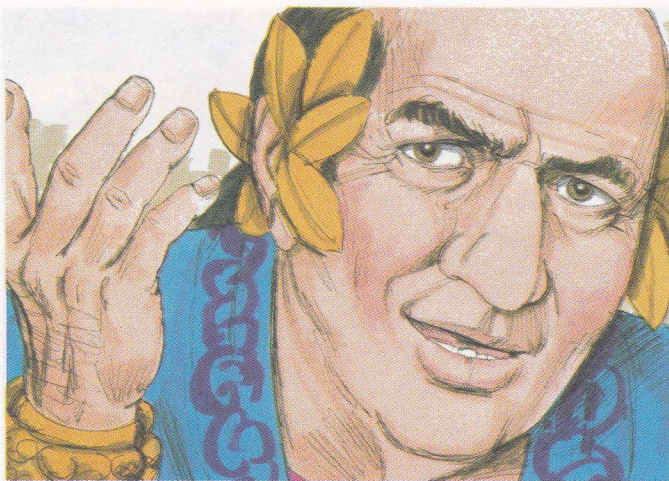
8 Paul said, "I am only saying what the prophets predicted—that the Christ would suffer and rise from the dead and proclaim light to the Jews and Gentiles."



9 At this point Festus interrupted. "Paul, you are out of your mind!" he shouted. "Your great learning is driving you insane!"



10 "I am not insane, most excellent Festus," Paul replied. "What I am saying is true." Then to King Agrippa Paul said, "Do you believe the prophets? I know you do."



11 Agrippa said, "Do you think that in such a short time you can make me a Christian?" Paul said, "I pray that not only you but all who are here may become what I am!"



12 As they were leaving, Agrippa said to Festus, "If this man had not appealed to Caesar, he could have been set free."