**“I APPEAL TO CAESAR!”**

Acts 25:1-27

Key Verse: 25:11b

*…if the charges brought against me by these Jews are not true, no one has the right to hand me over to them. I appeal to Caesar!”*

1. Who was Festus and why did he go up from Caesarea to Jerusalem? (1-2a; 24:27) What did the chief priests and the Jewish leaders present to Festus? (2b) What was their request? (3a) Why? (3b,15; John 8:44[[1]](#footnote-1)) How did Festus respond? (4-5, 16)
2. What did Festus do the next day after arriving back in Caesarea? (6) What did the Jews do when Paul came into the courtroom? (7) But what was Paul’s defence? (8) If Festus knew Paul was innocent, (18-19,25) why did Festus not set him free? (9)
3. Legally, why did Paul appeal to Caesar? (10-11) In what sense was Paul’s appeal also an act of faith? (23:11; Rom 8:28[[2]](#footnote-2)) What can you learn from Paul about how to deal with adversity in your life?
4. How did Festus explain his dilemma to King Agrippa? (13-21) Why did Festus bring Paul before King Agrippa (22-27) How can we see God working to fulfil his promises and carry out his plan? (9:15[[3]](#footnote-3))

1. John 8:44, ‘You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies.’ [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Rom 8:28, “And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.” [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Acts 9:15, ‘But the Lord said to Ananias, “Go! This man is my chosen instrument to proclaim my name to the Gentiles and their kings and to the people of Israel.” [↑](#footnote-ref-3)