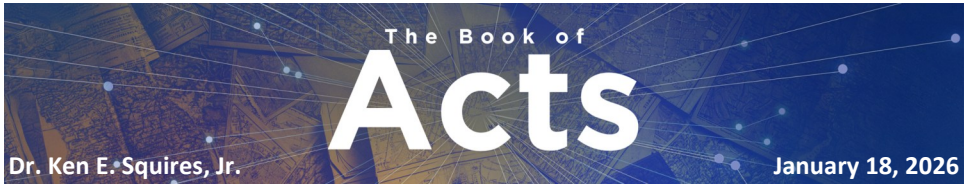

Acts 21:10-14 (NIV) - After we had been there a number of days, a prophet named Agabus came down from Judea. Coming over to us, he took Paul's belt, tied his own hands and feet with it and said, "The Holy Spirit says, 'In this way the Jewish leaders in Jerusalem will bind the owner of this belt and will hand him over to the Gentiles.'" When we heard this, we and the people there pleaded with Paul not to go up to Jerusalem. Then Paul answered, "Why are you weeping and breaking my heart? I am ready not only to be bound, but also to die in Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus." When he would not be dissuaded, we gave up and said, "The Lord's will be done."

Luke authors over one-fifth of the New Testament telling the story of Jesus' life and the life of Holy Spirit at work in Jesus' followers.

Paul's passport was now filled with the visas of places like Philippi, Athens, Corinth and Ephesus.

After over 20 years of declaring Jesus Christ's atoning death to the Gentile world, Paul has come home to Jerusalem.

Luke's logbook of Paul's voyage was filled with notes in the margin that read: Arrest. Mobs. Beatings. Death awaits. *(Acts 21:4, 11, 31, 35)*

Paul is shocked when he learns at Philip's house that women have a place of ministry in the new Pentecostal church. *(Acts 21:7-9)*

Paul is the lead in a one-act play where a tied-up Paul is an illustrated sermon. *(Acts 21:10-11)*

Acts 21:18-20a (NIV) - The next day Paul and the rest of us went to see James, and all the elders were present. Paul greeted them and reported in detail what God had done among the Gentiles through his ministry. When they heard this, they praised God.

The good news: Paul arrives in the Holy City.
The bad news: the Holy City is overrun by Christian Jews who are out to seize, arrest and kill Paul. *(Acts 21:27-Acts 22:1)*

A person's standing before God is not based on circumcision but based on being a new creation.

NOTES

COMING UP

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