

# WHY WAS FELIX AFRAID?

By Keith Greer

A prophet of God named Agabus foretells of Paul's problems when he goes to Jerusalem, Acts 21: 10-13. Paul is brought before the Sanhedrin. Later, a plot was discovered to take Paul's life and he is moved to Caesarea. On three different occasions Paul presented his defense and preached the gospel of Christ to the Roman authorities. The three men were Festus, Felix, and Agrippa. We want to examine Paul's defense before Felix, the governor and procurator of Judea. What was Felix's reaction to Paul's preaching? "Now as he reasoned about righteousness, self-control, and the judgment to come, Felix was afraid and answered ... "{Acts 24:25} **Why was he afraid?**

**Righteousness.** This refers the qualities of being righteous or just. Abraham was an example of righteousness, Genesis 15:6. Why? Simply put he was obedient to God. We are told to put on the "breastplate of righteousness," Ephesians 6: 14. Paul instructed Timothy to follow after it, 1 Timothy 6: 11; 2 Timothy 2:22. Paul was confident of "his crown of righteousness," 2 Timothy 4:8. Where can one find out about the righteousness of God? Look no further than His word, Romans 1:16,17.

**Temperance.** This has reference to self-control and mastering one's passions and desires. Paul told us this is one of the fruits of the spirit, Galatians 5:22,23. It is a quality one must add to their faith, 2 Peter 1 :5-9. Paul says it will be necessary to be able to run the race of life with temperance,1 Corinthians 9:25-27. Felix needed that in his life!

**Judgment to Come.** Final judgment was coming for Felix, as well as all of us, 2 Corinthians 5:10. This time is unknown to us but nevertheless it is sure, Hebrews 9:27. All judgment has been given over to the Son, John 5:22. There will be a day of reckoning for all men, Acts 17:30,31. God will take vengeance on the unprepared, 2Thessalonians 1:7-9.

Felix wanted to wait "for a more convenient season." He thought time was on his side. What about you dear reader, do you have the attitude of Felix? Death is sure, eternity is a very long time and Hell is too terrible to wait too long. Guess Felix had good reasons to be afraid! \*\*\*