

Acts 25.23 So, on the next day when Agrippa and Bernice came amid great pomp and entered the auditorium, accompanied by the commanders and the prominent men of the city, at the command of Festus, Paul was brought *before them*. 24 And Festus *said, “King Agrippa, and all you gentlemen present with us, you see this man about whom all the people of the Jews appealed to me, both in Jerusalem and here, shouting that he ought not to live any longer. (What do I do?)

Saul of Tarsus

Calling

Acts 26.1-29

The story of Jesus is the most important story in the world. And how his story impacts your story is the most important story in your world.

Historic Encounter

6 And now I am standing trial for the hope of the promise made by God to our fathers

8 Why is it considered incredible among you *people* if God raises the dead?

9 “So I thought to myself that I had to act in strong opposition to the name of Jesus of Nazareth. 10 And this is just what I did in Jerusalem; not only did I lock up many of the saints in prisons, after receiving authority from the chief priests, but I also cast my vote against them when they were being put to death.

11 And as I punished them often in all the synagogues, I tried to force them to blaspheme; and since I was extremely enraged at them, I kept pursuing them even to foreign cities.

12 “While so engaged, as I was journeying to Damascus with the authority and commission of the chief priests, 13 at midday, O king, I saw on the way

a light from heaven, brighter than the sun, shining around me and those who were journeying with me.

14 And when we had all fallen to the ground, I heard a voice saying to me in the Hebrew dialect, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me? It is hard for you to kick against the goads.'

15 And I said, 'Who are You, Lord?' And the Lord said, 'I am Jesus whom you are persecuting.'

16 But get up and stand on your feet; for this *purpose* I have appeared to you, to appoint you as a servant and a witness not only to the things in which you have seen Me, but also to the things in which I will appear to you, 17 rescuing you from the *Jewish* people and from the Gentiles, to whom I am sending you,

We are not asked to convert to something, we are called to commit to someone.

18 to open their eyes so that they may turn from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who have been sanctified by faith in Me.'

We share the story of Jesus. And how his story changed our story.

27 King Agrippa, do you believe the Prophets? I know that you believe."

Belief in Jesus, faith, is always tied to his resurrection. Belief and resurrection are inseparable.

Nothing is more important to your story than to believe in Jesus

28 Agrippa *replied* to Paul, "In a short *time* you *are going to* persuade me to make a Christian *of myself*."

29 And Paul *said*, "I would wish to God that even in a short or long *time* not

only you, but also all who hear me this day would become such as I myself am, except for these chains.”

Today, You Have A Historic Encounter

How is the story of Jesus going to impact your story?