Acts 26

1 And Agrippa said to Paul, It is allowed you to speak for yourself. Then Paul, having stretched out his hand, made a defense:

2 I reckon (esteem) myself fortunate (happy, blessed, made large), King Agrippa, being about to make a defense before you today concerning all of which I am accused by the Jews.

3 Especially being that you are a knower (expert) of all of the customs and also the controversies of the Jews; therefore I implore you to hear me long-temperately (patiently, long tempering of passion).

4 My manner of life then from out of my youth, which having been from its beginning among my ethnicity (nation) in Jerusalem, know all the Jews,

5 Knowing me from the first, if they would be willing to testify, that according to the strictest sect of our religion (ritual/religious worship), I lived a Pharisee.

6 And now I stand being judged upon the hope of the promise having been made by God to our fathers,

7 Unto which our twelve tribes serving in earnestness night and day hope to attain; concerning which hope, O king, I am accused by the Jews.

8 Why is it judged incredible (incredulous, unbelieving, not faithful) by you, if God raises the dead?

9 I indeed then supposed in myself that it is necessary to do much contrary to the name of Jesus of Nazareth.

10 Which I also did in Jerusalem; and having received authority from the chief priests, I locked up many of the saints in prisons; and they being put to death, I cast a vote against them.

11 And often punishing them in all the synagogues, I compelled (forced) them to blaspheme. And being exceedingly furious (madly enraged) against them, I persecuted them as far as even unto cities outside [exterior to our land],

12 During which, journeying unto Damascus with the authority and commission of the chief priests,

13 Mid-day on the road I saw, O king, a light from heaven above, the brightness (splendor) of the sun having shone around about me; and those journeying with me.

14 And all of us having fallen down unto the ground, I heard a voice saying in the Hebrew language (dialekto), Saul, Saul, why do you persecute Me? It is hard for you to kick against the goads (sharp points).

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

16 But rather rise up and stand upon your feet; for unto this, I have appeared to you to appoint (pre-hand-picked) you a servant (under-rower, subordinate, underling) and a witness of that which you have seen of Me, and of those in which I will appear to you,

17 Delivering you from out of the people and from out of the ethnicities unto whom I am sending you,

18 To open their eyes that they may turn away from darkness unto light and from the authority of Satan to (upon) God that they might receive the remission of sins and inheritance among those having been sanctified by faith that is in Me.

19 Whereupon, O king Agrippa, I was not unwilling to be persuaded to the heavenly vision (sight, greek-optasis, latin-visionis, appearing, spiritual seeing);

20 But rather I announced to those in Damascus first and then all of Jerusalem and the region of Judea and to the ethnicities to repent and to turn to (upon) God, practicing works worthy of repentance.

21 On account of these things, the Jews having apprehended me being in the temple, attempted to lay hands on as to kill me.

22 Having obtained then help from God until this day, I have stood bearing witness to both small and great, saying nothing other than what both the prophets and Moses said was about to happen:

23 That the Christ would suffer; whether first from out of resurrection from out of the dead, and ready to preach light to both our people and to the ethnicities.

24 And as he answered these things in his defense, Festus said with a great voice, You are insane (raving mad), Paul! Your great learning, turns you about to insanity (manian like mania, latin-insaniam-madness)!

25 However Paul said, I am not insane, most excellent Festus, but rather I utter out sayings (rhemata) of truth and soundness of perspective.

26 For the king understands concerning these things to whom also I speak using boldness (freedom, confidence). For I am persuaded that not any of these things are hidden from him; for this thing is not done in a corner.

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

28 Then Agrippa [said] to Paul, In so little do you persuade to make me a Christian?

29 And Paul [said], I would wish (euchomai-short word for pray/wish, latin-opto-wish) to God, both in a little and in great, not only you but rather also all those hearing me this day to become such of what sort I also am- except these chains (bonds).

30 And the king rose up, and the governor, also Bernice, and those who are sitting with them,

31 And having withdrawn they spoke to one another saying, This man is doing nothing worthy of death or of chains.

32 And Agrippa said to Festus, This man might (was able) have been released if he had not appealed to Caesar.