

16/08/09 am

Don't Ignore the Message of Salvation!

Acts 24:24-27

*Theme: When you see the truth
of the message of salvation
accept it and follow the Lord
Jesus Christ.*

Felix and Drusilla

The Apostle Paul stood trial before
Governor Felix at Caesarea.

Felix and his wife Drusilla wanted
to hear Paul.

Felix:

- was a twin, born into slavery;
- earned his freedom;
- his brother was a favourite of Emperor Claudius;
- his brother got Felix his job;
- was cruel and corrupt;
- knew about Christianity.

Drusilla:

- was a Jewess;
- her great-grandfather murdered the children in Matthew 2;
- her great-uncle beheaded John the Baptist (Matt. 14);
- her first engagement was broken off when she was aged 6;

- was married at 14;
- at age 16, left her husband for Felix;
- was about 20 when she heard Paul.

What Paul Said to Felix and Drusilla (Acts 24:22-27)

He spoke to their situation.

He spoke to their greatest need.

Generally (24:24), they needed to
become followers of Jesus.

Specifically (24:25a,b,c), he spoke about:

1. Righteousness

The righteousness of God.

People were righteous when first created.

The disobedience of Adam and Eve affected all born after them.

2. Self-control

Felix and Drusilla were guilty of not living righteously.

They could only overcome it through Christ. *Cf.* Gal. 5:22-23.

3. Judgement to come

Felix & Drusilla would have to give account to God some day.
Cf. Heb. 9:27.

It was possible for them to escape God's judgement on their sin.

This message is vital for us!
It tells us why Jesus is relevant to us:

*We were made for fellowship with
God.*

*This will only happen through faith in
Christ alone, cf. John 14:6.*

*We can only live self-controlled lives
in the power God gives.*

*Judgement Day is coming and only
Jesus can rescue us.*

Q. What was the result of Paul's preaching?

A. Conviction of sin by the Holy Spirit! Felix was frightened (24:25d).

Is it having that effect on you?

If God's love does not draw you to Christ may the fear of His wrath drive you to Christ!

What became of Felix and Drusilla?

Felix was replaced as Governor.

Drusilla died in AD 79 when Mt. Vesuvius erupted and destroyed Pompeii.

Conclusion – Now is the Day of Salvation

Life is serious. Sin is serious.

God is real. Jesus is real.

God's judgement is real.

Death is real. Eternity is real.

Heb. 9:27

Following Jesus means you:

- are made righteous before God;
- are enabled to live righteously;
- are rescued from the judgement to come, *cf.* 1 Thess. 1:10.

What are you going to do?

Trust in Christ now! cf. 2 Cor. 6:2.