

sermon notes

January 25, 2025 | Pastor Tony Caffey, Messiah Bible Church
No Other Name | “Urgency in the Midst of Adversity” | **Acts 21:37–22:29**

What Does a Sense of Urgency Look Like?

- 1) A _____ in the face of _____
(21:37–39)

- 2) A _____ for your _____
(21:40–22:2)

- 3) A clear and compelling _____ of _____
(22:3–16)

- 4) A _____ to suffer _____
(22:17–29)

Questions for Further Application of God’s Word:

GO DEEPER

Read Acts 21:37–22:29. Why was Paul so violently opposed to Christians before he became one himself? What changed Paul? Do you think this impacted his approach to preaching the gospel to a mob of angry, violent Jews in Jerusalem? How does Paul display a love for his Jewish persecutors?

In what ways does Paul explain his conversion with clarity and urgency? What are some essential elements of his testimony? Why are testimonies powerful ways to share the gospel, as opposed to just telling people what Christ has done for them? How do they add power and persuasion when you share the gospel?

GET PERSONAL

On a scale of 1 to 10, how would you rate Paul’s boldness and urgency in the face of opposition? How about Peter, John, Stephen, and the other NT believers in Acts? How would you rate yourself? What allows a person to exercise greater boldness when they testify about what Christ has done for them? What inhibits boldness and urgency? Is fear keeping you from sharing Christ with someone in particular? If so, pray for boldness and urgency right now.

PUT IT INTO PRACTICE

What is your testimony? When did you give your life to Christ? Take a moment to write this out and share it with someone close to you. Have them critique you for clarity and urgency. Afterwards, pray for an opportunity to step out boldly and share your testimony with an unbeliever or a group of unbelievers.

ADVANCED QUESTIONS FOR DEEPER STUDY

Does the rejection of Paul’s witness in Acts 22 mean that Paul made a mistake in sharing the gospel? Why or why not? Is God glorified when we share Christ with people and get rejected? What Scriptures speak to this issue (Isa 55:10–11; Matt 5:11–12; Luke 10:16; Jn 12:23–24; 15:18–20; Acts 20:26–27; Rom 9:22–23; 1 Cor 4:1–2; 2 Cor 2:15–16; Phil 1:12–14; 1 Pet 4:14)?

Why does Paul invoke his “Roman citizenship” before his flogging? There are times when Paul invokes his citizenship to elude persecution, and there are times he doesn’t. Are there discernible reasons why he invokes it at some times and not others? If so, what are those reasons? If not, why not? Are there any principles that we can apply to our current political situation 2,000 years later?