

“YOU WILL BE BROUGHT BEFORE GOVERNORS AND KINGS”

Acts 18:12-17

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INTRODUCTION

Illus: Have you ever had a very significant opportunity, but did not realize its significance until the opportunity was past? Compare Pilate earlier. Here we see a Roman ruler who had the opportunity of a lifetime and did not know it nor take advantage of it.

The Lord’s promise of v. 10 was true; Paul was attacked but kept safe.

This incident is one of the most important for Christianity in the entire first century.

Let us look at three primary issues in this text:

- 1) The issue with the Jews
- 2) The issue with the Romans
- 3) The issue with Christ

You must be alert to God’s special opportunities he brings to your life.

- I. THE ISSUE WITH THE JEWS
 - A. The “Attack” on Paul (12)
 - B. The Accusation against Paul (13)
 1. He violates the law
 2. Word, names, your own law (15)
 3. Falls under their jurisdiction
- II. THE ISSUE WITH THE ROMANS
 - A. Identity of Gallio
 - B. The decision by Gallio
 - C. The Importance for the date of these events
 - D. The importance for Christianity of this decision
- III. THE ISSUE WITH CHRIST (17)
 - A. Sosthenes (See I Cor. 1:1)
 1. Why was he beaten?
 2. Who beat him?
 - B. The Indifference of Gallio (v. 17)

CONCLUSION

God gives you amazing opportunities each day; do you recognize them and take advantage of them?

You must be alert to God’s special opportunities he brings to your life.