Malking on Sonshine THE APOSTLE PAUL'S GLORIOUS JOURNEY TO FREEDOM



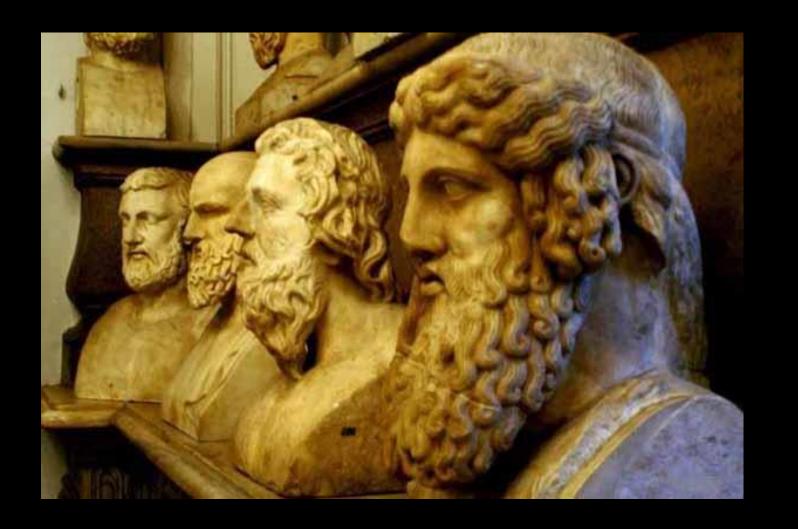
A SUMMER STROLLTHROUGH THE BOOK OF ACTS











Acts 17:17-18 (ESV): "So he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons, and in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there. 18 Some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers also conversed with him."

Philippians 4:11-13 (ESV): "I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. 12 I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. 13 I can do all things through him who strengthens me."



Acts 24:16 (ESV): "So I always take pains to have a clear conscience toward both God and man."

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A SUMMER STROLLTHROUGH THE BOOK OF ACTS

John 5:24 (ESV): "Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life."



Romans 14:7-9 (ESV): "For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. 8 For if we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. 9 For to this end Christ died and lived again." QUT

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Acts 24:1-21 (ESV): "And after five days the high priest Ananias came down with some elders and a spokesman, one Tertullus. They laid before the governor their case against Paul. 2 And when he had been summoned, Tertullus began to accuse him, saying: 'Since through you we enjoy much peace, and since by your foresight, most excellent Felix, reforms are being made for this nation, 3 in every way and everywhere we accept this with all gratitude...."

"...4 But, to detain you no further, I beg you in your kindness to hear us briefly. 5 For we have found this man a plague, one who stirs up riots among all the Jews throughout the world and is a ringleader of the sect of the Nazarenes. 6 He even tried to profane the temple, but we seized him. 8 By examining him yourself you will be able to find out from him about everything of which we accuse him.' 9 The Jews also joined in the charge, affirming that all these things were so."





"I wasn't fighting for the Klan. Folks like me are in the trenches every day fighting for the Constitution, and that was the only thing this case was about."



(Anthony Griffin, as quoted in Anthony Head's article "How to Lose Friends and Influence First Amendment Rights" in *Texas Super Lawyer*, October 2005)





Acts 24:10-15 (ESV): "And when the governor had nodded to him to speak, Paul replied: 'Knowing that for many years you have been a judge over this nation, I cheerfully make my defense. 11 You can verify that it is not more than twelve days since I went up to worship in Jerusalem, 12 and they did not find me disputing with anyone or stirring up a crowd, either in the temple or in the synagogues or in the

"...13 Neither can they prove to you what they now bring up against me. 14 But this I confess to you, that according to the Way, which they call a sect, I worship the God of our fathers, believing everything laid down by the Law and written in the Prophets, 15 having a hope in God, which these men themselves accept, that there will be a resurrection of both the just and the unjust."

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ΜΛΙΝ ΡΩΙΝΤ:

ALL THE WORLD'S A GAME, BUT PAUL WAS NOT A PLAYER.

2 Corinthians 1:12 (ESV): "For our boast is this, the testimony of our conscience, that we behaved in the world with simplicity and godly sincerity, not by earthly wisdom but by the grace of God, and supremely so toward you."

Acts 24:24-26 (ESV): "After some days Felix came with his wife Drusilla, who was Jewish, and he sent for Paul and heard him speak about faith in Christ Jesus. 25 And as he reasoned about righteousness and self-control and the coming judgment, Felix was alarmed and said, 'Go away for the present. When I get an opportunity I will summon you.' 26 At the same time he hoped that money would be given him by Paul. So he sent for him often and conversed with him. 27 When two years had elapsed, Felix was succeeded by Porcius Festus. And desiring to do the Jews a favor, Felix left Paul in prison." Acts 25:9-12 (ESV): "But Festus, wishing to do the Jews a favor, said to Paul, 'Do you wish to go up to Jerusalem and there be tried on these charges before me?' 10 But Paul said, 'I am standing before Caesar's tribunal, where I ought to be tried. To the Jews I have done no wrong, as you yourself know very well. 11 If then I am a wrongdoer and have committed anything for which I deserve to die, I do not seek to escape death. But if there is nothing to their charges against me, no one can give me up to them. I appeal to Caesar.' 12 Then Festus, when he had conferred with his council, answered, 'To Caesar you have appealed; to Caesar you shall go."

Acts 25:23 (ESV): "So on the next day Agrippa and Bernice came with great pomp, and they entered the audience hall with the military tribunes and the prominent men of the city. Then, at the command of Festus, Paul was brought in." Acts 26:24-28 (ESV): "And as he was saying these things in his defense, Festus said with a loud voice, 'Paul, you are out of your mind; your great learning is driving you out of your mind.' 25 But Paul said, 'I am not out of my mind, most excellent Festus, but I am speaking true and rational words. 26 For the king knows about these things, and to him I speak boldly. For I am persuaded that none of these things has escaped his notice, for this has not been done in a corner. 27 King Agrippa, do you believe the prophets? I know that you believe.' 28 And Agrippa said to Paul, 'In a short time would you persuade me to be a Christian?"

Acts 25:29 (ESV): "And Paul said, 'Whether short or long, I would to God that not only you but also all who hear me this day might become such as I am - except for these chains."



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APPLITATION:

DON'T

HATE THE PLAYERS;

HATE THE GAME.

1 John 2:15-17 (ESV): "Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16 For all that is in the world – the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life – is not from the Father but is from the world. 17 And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever." QUT 1 John 3:13-14 (ESV): "Do not be surprised, brothers, that the world hates you. 14 We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brothers. Whoever does not love abides in death."



Acts 23:1-5 (ESV): "And looking intently at the council, Paul said," 'Brothers, I have lived my life before God in all good conscience up to this day.' 2 And the high priest Ananias commanded those who stood by him to strike him on the mouth. 3 Then Paul said to him, 'God is going to strike you, you whitewashed wall! Are you sitting to judge me according to the law, and yet contrary to the law you order me to be struck?' 4 Those who stood by said, 'Would you revile God's high priest?' 5 And Paul said, 'I did not know, brothers, that he was the high priest, for it is written, "You shall not speak evil of a ruler of your people.""

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NEXT WEEK: ACTS TWENTY-SEVEN