Felix

"Go away for the present, and when I find time I will summon you."

Introduction

• Book of Acts is a Divine history of the spread of the gospel of Christ
• Recorded are cases of conversions, both Jews and Gentiles obeying the gospel
• When their faith in Jesus led them to repent and be baptized, they received forgiveness of their sins

Introduction

• But, there were many who rejected the gospel
• One such person was Felix, governor of Judea
• We look at his response to the gospel to motivate us not to follow his example
• And, we look at him to encourage us to boldly and lovingly preach the gospel in all situations

Who Was Felix?

• Felix was household slave of Agrippina, Claudius Caesar’s mother
• Appointed by Claudius as Governor of Judea
• He enticed Drusilla to leave her husband, Azizus, king of Emeza, and marry him
• Drusilla was the oldest daughter to Herod who killed the apostle James
• He loved military displays and money

Who Was Felix?

Act 24:26 At the same time too, he was hoping that money would be given him by Paul; therefore he also used to send for him quite often and converse with him.

What Did The Lord Do To Bring The Gospel To Felix?

Act 9:15 But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is a chosen instrument of Mine, to bear My name before the Gentiles and kings and the sons of Israel;
Act 9:16 for I will show him how much he must suffer for My name's sake."
What Did The Lord Do To Bring The Gospel To Felix?

Act 21:30 Then all the city was provoked, and the people rushed together, and taking hold of Paul they dragged him out of the temple, and immediately the doors were shut.

Act 21:33 Then the commander came up and took hold of him, and ordered him to be bound with two chains; and he began asking who he was and what he had done.

What Did The Lord Do To Bring The Gospel To Felix?

Act 22:25 But when they stretched him out with thongs, Paul said to the centurion who was standing by, "Is it lawful for you to scourge a man who is a Roman and uncondemned?"

What Did The Lord Do To Bring The Gospel To Felix?

Act 23:11 But on the night immediately following, the Lord stood at his side and said, "Take courage; for as you have solemnly witnessed to My cause at Jerusalem, so you must witness at Rome also."

Act 23:15 "Now therefore, you and the Council notify the commander to bring him down to you, as though you were going to determine his case by a more thorough investigation; and we for our part are ready to slay him before he comes near the place."

Act 23:16 But the son of Paul's sister heard of their ambush, and he came and entered the barracks and told Paul.

What Did The Lord Do To Bring The Gospel To Felix?

Act 23:17 Paul called one of the centurions to him and said, "Lead this young man to the commander, for he has something to report to him."

Act 23:21 "So do not listen to them, for more than forty of them are lying in wait for him who have bound themselves under a curse not to eat or drink until they slay him; and now they are ready and waiting for the promise from you."

What Did The Lord Do To Bring The Gospel To Felix?

Act 23:23 And he called to him two of the centurions and said, "Get two hundred soldiers ready by the third hour of the night to proceed to Caesarea, with seventy horsemen and two hundred spearmen."

Act 23:24 They were also to provide mounts to put Paul on and bring him safely to Felix the governor.
What Did The Lord Do To Bring The Gospel To Felix?
Act 23:29  and I found him to be accused over questions about their Law, but under no accusation deserving death or imprisonment.
Act 23:30  "When I was informed that there would be a plot against the man, I sent him to you at once, also instructing his accusers to bring charges against him before you."

What Did The Lord Do To Bring The Gospel To Felix?
Act 24:12  "Neither in the temple, nor in the synagogues, nor in the city itself did they find me carrying on a discussion with anyone or causing a riot.
Act 24:13  "Nor can they prove to you the charges of which they now accuse me.

What Did The Lord Do To Bring The Gospel To Felix?
Act 24:14  "But this I admit to you, that according to the Way which they call a sect I do serve the God of our fathers, believing everything that is in accordance with the Law and that is written in the Prophets;
Act 24:15  having a hope in God, which these men cherish themselves, that there shall certainly be a resurrection of both the righteous and the wicked.

What Did The Lord Do To Bring The Gospel To Felix?
Act 24:16  "In view of this, I also do my best to maintain always a blameless conscience both before God and before men.
Act 24:17  "Now after several years I came to bring alms to my nation and to present offerings;
Act 24:21  other than for this one statement which I shouted out while standing among them, 'For the resurrection of the dead I am on trial before you today.'"

What Was The Gospel Message Preached To Felix?
Act 24:22  But Felix, having a more exact knowledge about the Way, put them off, saying, "When Lysias the commander comes down, I will decide your case."
Act 24:23  Then he gave orders to the centurion for him to be kept in custody and yet have some freedom, and not to prevent any of his friends from ministering to him.
Act 24:24  But some days later Felix arrived with Drusilla, his wife who was a Jewess, and sent for Paul and heard him speak about faith in Christ Jesus.
Act 24:25  But as he was discussing righteousness, self-control and the judgment to come, Felix became frightened and said, "Go away for the present, and when I find time I will summon you."
### Righteousness

1Jn 5:17 All unrighteousness is sin, and there is a sin not *leading* to death.

Rom 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

Rom 1:17 For in it *the* righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "BUT THE RIGHTEOUS man SHALL LIVE BY FAITH."

### Self-Control

Col 3:5 Therefore consider the members of your earthly body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry.

Act 2:38 Peter *said* to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

### The Judgment to Come

Act 17:30 "Therefore having overlooked the times of ignorance, God is now declaring to men that all *people* everywhere should repent,

Act 17:31 because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead."

### How Did Felix Respond To The Gospel Message?

Act 24:25 But as he was discussing righteousness, self-control and the judgment to come, Felix became frightened and said, "Go away for the present, when I have a convenient time I will summon you."

### Facing Our Unforgiven Sins In Judgments Should Terrify Us

2Co 5:10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

2Co 5:11 Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we persuade men, but we are made manifest to God; and I hope that we are made manifest also in your consciences.

### Is There Ever A Convenient Time To Become A Christian?

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Act 24:25 Now as he reasoned about righteousness, self-control, and the judgment to come, Felix was afraid and answered, "Go away for now; when I have a convenient time I will call for you."
### How Did Felix Respond To The Gospel Message?

**Act 24:26** At the same time too, he was hoping that money would be given him by Paul; therefore he also used to send for him quite often and converse with him.

**Act 24:27** But after two years had passed, Felix was succeeded by Porcius Festus, and wishing to do the Jews a favor, Felix left Paul imprisoned.

### Felix

1. Who was Felix?
2. What did the Lord do to bring the gospel to Felix?
3. What was the gospel message preached to Felix?
4. How did Felix respond to the gospel message?