

## Acts 25 Chapter 25, 26

According to the maxim of a distinguished statesman

“Error is harmful while reason is left free to combat it. Truth like pure gold will never suffer from the most rigid examination ----

The Bible claims to be a book of divine authenticity – containing a revelation from God & C ---

The Roman Governor, was evidently a candid enquirer after religious truth ---

We learn from the account of Josephus, that Thelise was unlawfully married to Brusilla, while she was the wife of another man – and besides, he was considered a base, [? ], and cruel tyrant---

Not long after saint Pauls conversion and call to the apostleship, he became the subject of the most cruel persecution –

At their [crisis? ], the chief captain of the Roman soldiers, revered the Apostle, and Demanded who he was and what he had done – and while some cried one thing & some another, he could not arrive at any definite conclusion

His enemies being confused and disappointed, he was then arraigned for further trial, before the Sanhedrin, and after much discussion and dissention among themselves, the chief c. fearing that they w. pull the apostle in pieces, command his soldiers to put him into the castle – the following night the Lord appeared to his faithful servant – But the next day about 40 banded together – the chief capt. Being informed, sent of Paul and [?]

1. The first topic which St. introduced and discussed in the presence of his distinguished auditor, was that of righteousness or strict justice – In this instance he displayed great tact & talent – He knew exactly, the character of this heathen ruler ---

Therefore the bold, fearless & intrepid Paul, commenced his discourse by telling this royal tyrant, that the religion of Jesus Christ, requires a man to be honest in his dealing. There is great need of just such reasoning in the presen[?] age of the world ----

2. In the next place, St. Paul reasoned on the subject of temperance - We presume he had nothing to say on the subject of ardent spirits – But he told him he should be temperate in all things – his views s on the wine question (ardent spirits) –

And there is just as much necessity for reasoning among the people, as there was in the days after apostle – for after the lapse of 18 [hund.?] years – drunkenness is a crying sin in our land ---

After all the light, there is a great deal of strong drink consumed =

It [wd/] be a blessed thing for suffering humanity, if there was not a drop of liquor upon the face of the globe.

3. The third subject – was the doctrine of a future judgment – Having reasoned – he refused him to a day of final retribution, when the unjust &C must give an account – In view of the present inequality of human affairs, he showed the necessity of a general judgment –

4. While Felix heard the reasoning of Paul, he trembled and said “go thy way”. In these respects, he was a [true?] type of sinners at the present day –

The unconverted are fully imprisoned with the importance of religion – They have the Bible – They have heard the preaching of the word – They have been wooed and entreated by the Christ – They have been condemned at the bar of conscience ---

And like Felix, they have feared and trembled – There have been times in the history of every sinners life when he felt dreadfully alarmed – While the Spirit [?] been poured out - &C – The wreck [?] [? ].

But when [?] to repent – you have procrastinated the sin of procrastination has been the ruin of these = lands – the young – middle aged – the aged

The sin of procrastination will deaden your sensitivity & when given over, you will get beyond the reach of mercy ---

1. We [wd?] exhort the young person present to [?] the Lord

2. Those who have passed the meridian to reflect

Rhiteousness, temperance & Judgement