

**Oxford Baptist Church – July 23 – Tyler Bowles**  
**Acts: "The Gospel Will Not Fail." – Acts 22:30-23:35**

**Recap**

- Paul has been arrested in Jerusalem
- They don't know what the charges are against him
- Escaped flogging because he was a Roman citizen
- Spends the night in the Barracks as a prisoner

**Verse 11**

- Verse 11 is the focal point of the chapter
- We will examine 2 main ideas
  - Take Courage
  - Testify in Rome
- Each has 3 events in it

**Take Courage | Acts 22:30-23:11**

- The High Priest | v30-5
  - Lysias, the commander, wants to find out why everyone is angry at Paul, what are the charges?
    - Releases Paul from custody
    - Holds meeting with chief priests and council
  - Paul's opening remarks anger the council
    - The chief priest has Paul struck
    - Paul responds angrily
    - Paul didn't realize he was talking to the high priest
    - He apologizes
- Sadducees & Pharisees | v6-9
  - After his mistake Paul turns the attention from himself
  - He starts a debate about the resurrection
  - Things turn violent
  - God has you in the perfect place, you are the right person for the Job
  - *What skills and knowledge can you use in the situations God has placed you?*
- The Barracks | v10-11

- Paul is placed in protective custody and returned to the barracks
- Jesus visits Paul offering encouragement
- His failures today were not too much to stop the gospel
- He will go to Rome
- *Do you feel like your failure make you an ineffective minister of the gospel*
- *Do you trust that the Gospel will not fail?*

**Testify in Rome | Acts 23:12-35**

- The Plot to Kill Paul | v12-15
  - The Jews want Paul dead
  - A group vows to kill Paul and hatches a plan with the council to ambush him
- The Nephews News | v16-22
  - Paul's nephew finds out about the plot and tells Paul
  - Paul sends him to the tribune who listens
  - *Do you trust that God is working through the lives of unexpected people to spread the gospel?*
- The Commanders Deliverance | 23:23-35
  - Paul gets an escort to Caesarea by 470 soldiers
  - Lysias writes a letter to Felix, the only secular letter in the New Testament
  - Paul is held in Caesarea awaiting a hearing with Felix and the Jewish council

**Conclusion**

- Paul wasn't perfect but in his failures God is bigger and he receives grace
- God is working all things together, even in unexpected people, to send the gospel to the ends of the earth
- *Do you trust that the gospel will not fail?*
- *Do you long for the gospel to continue to spread?*