

Oxford Baptist Church – August 13 – Jay Nugteren
Acts: "Almost a Believer" – Acts 26

1. Paul's Beginning | v.1-3

- Paul was allowed to speak for himself | v.1
- Paul was happy to speak to Agrippa | v.2
- King Agrippa was familiar with Jewish customs & traditions | v.3

2. Paul's Past | v.4-11

- Paul had a reputation in Jerusalem | v.4-5
- The key to Paul's opposition | v.6-8
 - Paul's view of the resurrection | 1Cor 15
- Paul had to oppose Jesus | v.9
- Paul raged and ravaged the Christians | v.10-11

3. Paul's Conversion & Obedience | v.12-18

- Jesus appeared to Paul | v.13-15
- Jesus gave Paul a mission | v.16-18
- Paul had to obey the heavenly vision | v.19-20
- The Jews tried to kill him for his obedience | v.21
- Paul points to the prophets | v.22-23
- OT Prophecies of the Messiah suffering, dying, and resurrecting:
 - Psalm 16:10
 - Psalm 22
 - Isaiah 53
 - Daniel 12:2-3
 - Jonah 1:17b & Hosea 6:1-2 (Matthew 12:38-41)

4. Festus' Assumption | v.24

- Festus assumed that Paul was insane | v.24

5. Paul's Appeal (& the Decision) | v.25-29

- Paul was speaking the Truth | v.25
- Paul knew that Agrippa was aware of Jesus | v.26
- Paul knew that Agrippa believed the prophets | v.27
- Agrippa's question | v.28
- Paul's bold response - I want to convert everyone! | v.29
- The governors realized that Paul was innocent | v.30-31
- They had to send him to Rome | v.32

Application

- *Are you in spiritual chains?*
- *Are you ready to give an answer for the hope that lies within you?*
- *Are you "kicking against the goads" today?*