



Get Up and Go

By Shannon Ford on July 1, 2022

TODAY'S READING: Acts 26

Paul's speech in Acts 26 before King Agrippa is the culmination of Paul's defense in chapters 21-26. The Jewish King Agrippa and his sister, Bernice, are introduced in the previous chapter as they visited Festus. Agrippa is the grandson of Herod the Great who was ruling when Jesus was born. Festus asked for Agrippa's assistance because he had no specific charges against Paul.

In his defense to King Agrippa, Paul shares his testimony conversion in Damascus and how Jesus called him to be a servant and witness for the gospel. This is the last time that Paul will share his testimony in the Book of Acts. As we look again at Paul's testimony, look at verse sixteen. Jesus tells Paul, *"Now get up and stand on your feet. I have appeared to you to appoint you as a servant and as a witness of what you have seen of me and what I will show you."*

Our mission as believers in Jesus Christ goes beyond an emotional response to hearing a great message. That will not last. It goes beyond repeating Bible stories we have heard others teach or reciting some speech we have been taught. We are Christ's witnesses. A witness is someone who has seen with his own eyes. In court, a witness is not allowed to testify to what he heard from someone else. That is called hearsay. Testimony is confined to what the witness has personally experienced, seen and heard. The same is true of us as witnesses of Christ.

We testify by sharing our personal stories of how we met Jesus. We share how we have come to know Him. We share stories of His faithfulness. That is what it means to be His witness. And we do this not by our own strength or ability, but by the power of His Spirit living in us. There is a world of people around us living lives that are broken, empty and hopeless. But we personally know a risen Lord who can radically change every life, just as He has changed ours. We just need to "get up and stand on our feet" and go share His story, and our own.

PRAYER: Dear Lord, thank You for my story of salvation and for the work You have done in my life. Empower me with Your Holy Spirit to get up and go and share it so others might come to know You. Amen.

TOMORROW'S READING: Weekend is for catch-up and review.

MONDAY'S READING: Acts 27

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