



**Destination Rome: Good Intentions... Bad Advice**

*Acts 21:1-16*

November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021

*Proverbs 15:22*

With the advice given we see Paul's determination to do the will of God.

Why did Paul not follow the advice to NOT go to Jerusalem:

It was God's will for Paul to go Jerusalem. *Acts 20:22*

Reassurance given by God *Acts 23:11*

When making decisions not all advice is good or the right advice

In our decisions only those facing a decision know all the facts and are qualified to make the final decision.

In our decisions we must choose to follow God's will. *Acts 21:13*

What is God's will for your life?

*1 Thessalonians 5:18, 1 John 1:7, Ephesians 1:7, Colossians 1:14, 1 John 4:9*  
*Philippians 1:21*

Slides

**Destination Rome: Good Intentions... Bad Advice**

*Acts 21:1-16*

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**“When your mother asks, ‘Do you want a piece of advice?’ it’s a mere formality. It doesn’t matter if you answer yes or no. You’re going to get it anyway.” - Erma Bombeck**

*Proverbs 15:22 NLT Plans go wrong for lack of advice; many advisers bring success.*

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PIC(bad advice)

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*Acts 21:1-16 NLT After saying farewell to the Ephesian elders, we sailed straight to the island of Cos. The next day we reached Rhodes and then went to Patara. <sup>2</sup> There we boarded a ship sailing for Phoenicia. <sup>3</sup> We sighted the island of Cyprus, passed it on our left, and landed at the harbor of Tyre, in Syria, where the ship was to unload its cargo. <sup>4</sup> We went ashore, found the local believers, and stayed with them a week. These believers prophesied through the Holy Spirit that Paul should not go on to Jerusalem. <sup>5</sup> When we returned to the ship at the end of the week, the entire congregation, including women and children, left the city and came down to the shore with us. There we knelt, prayed, <sup>6</sup> and said our farewells. Then we went aboard, and they returned home.*

*<sup>7</sup> The next stop after leaving Tyre was Ptolemais, where we greeted the brothers and sisters and stayed for one day. <sup>8</sup> The next day we went on to Caesarea and stayed at the home of Philip the Evangelist, one of the seven men who had been chosen to distribute food. <sup>9</sup> He had four unmarried daughters who had the gift of prophecy. <sup>10</sup> Several days later a man named Agabus, who also had the gift of prophecy, arrived from Judea. <sup>11</sup> He came over, took Paul's belt, and bound his own feet and hands with it. Then he said, "The Holy Spirit declares, 'So shall the owner of this belt be bound by the Jewish leaders in Jerusalem and turned over to the Gentiles.'" <sup>12</sup> When we heard this, we and the local believers all begged Paul not to go on to Jerusalem.*

*<sup>13</sup> But he said, "Why all this weeping? You are breaking my heart! I am ready not only to be jailed at Jerusalem but even to die for the sake of the Lord Jesus." <sup>14</sup> When it was clear that we couldn't persuade him, we gave up and said, "The Lord's will be done." <sup>15</sup> After this we packed our things and left for Jerusalem. <sup>16</sup> Some believers from Caesarea accompanied us, and they took us to the home of Mnason, a man originally from Cyprus and one of the early believers.*

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We see Paul's determination to do the will of God.

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Why did Paul not follow the advice to NOT go to Jerusalem:

It was God's will for Paul to go Jerusalem.

*Acts 20:22 NIV And now, compelled by the Spirit, I am going to Jerusalem, not knowing what will happen to me there.*

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Why did Paul not follow the advice to NOT go to Jerusalem:

It was God's will for Paul to go Jerusalem.

Reassurance given by God

*Acts 23:11 NLT That night the Lord appeared to Paul and said, "Be encouraged, Paul. Just as you have been a witness to me here in Jerusalem, you must preach the Good News in Rome as well."*

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[This] was not understood by Paul as a positive command that he should not go to Jerusalem; for had it been, it would not have been disobeyed. He evidently understood [them] as expressive of their earnest wish that he should not go, as [informing] him of danger, and as a kind expression in regard to his own welfare and safety.... Paul was in better circumstances to understand this than we are, and his interpretation was doubtless correct.... It should be understood, therefore, simply as an inspired prophetic warning, that if he went, he went at the risk of his life—a prophetic warning, joined with their individual personal wishes that he should not expose himself to this danger. The meaning evidently is that they said by inspiration of the Spirit that he should not go unless he was willing to encounter danger, for they foresaw that the journey would be attended with the hazard of his life. - Albert Barnes

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When making decisions not all advice is good or the right advice

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In our decisions only those facing a decision know all the facts and are qualified to make the final decision.

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**In our decisions we must choose to follow God's will.**

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*Acts 13 NLT But he said, "Why all this weeping? You are breaking my heart! I am ready not only to be jailed at Jerusalem but even to die for the sake of the Lord Jesus."*

**What is God's will for your life?**

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*1 Thessalonians 5:18 NLT Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus.*

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*Acts 13b NLT ...I am ready not only to be jailed at Jerusalem but even to die for the sake of the Lord Jesus."*

**Paul had courage in the face of death.**

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*1 John 1:7 NLT But if we are living in the light, as God is in the light, then we have fellowship with each other, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, cleanses us from all sin.*

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*1 John 4:9 NLT God showed how much he loved us by sending his one and only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through him.*

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**Are you so committed to doing God's will in your life that no matter what your friends or family members may do or say, that you CANNOT be turned away from God's will?**

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*Philippians 1:21 NLT For to me, living means living for Christ, and dying is even better.*

**Do you live wholeheartedly for Christ?**

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