

Bereans Bible Institute
Module VII – The Apostolic Mission
Lesson 28 – The Ministry of the 12th Apostle – Paul (Part 15)

I. Paul continues his trip to Jerusalem (Acts 21)

A. Paul at Tyre found some disciples of Christ (vss. 3-6)

1. (vs. 4) They urged Paul not to go to Jerusalem, knowing through the Spirit that harm awaited him.

B. Paul at Ceasarea (vss. 8-16)

1. (vss. 10-11) Another warning

II. Paul at Jerusalem (vss. 17ff)

A. Paul and his team meet with James and the elders of the Jerusalem congregation (vss. 17-26)

1. Paul reported all that God was doing with his ministry among the Gentiles.

2. The leaders of the Jerusalem congregation rejoiced in what God was doing through Paul's ministry.

3. James and the elders reported to Paul the thousands of Jews in Jerusalem who had believed. The entire Jerusalem congregation was "zealous for the Law" of Moses.

a. They reported to Paul the false rumor that Paul was requiring that Jewish Christians (among the Gentiles) must abandon the customs of the Law.

b. They asked Paul to publically complete his Nazirite vow along with four other Jewish Christians in order to put a stop to the rumor.

4. Genuine Christianity does not require that Jews stop observing the Law of Moses, nor does it require Gentiles to observe the Law of Moses. Observance of the Feasts is voluntary.

B. Paul was determined to be in Jerusalem at this time (Pentecost) in order to complete his Nazirite vow according to the Law of Moses.

1. Paul had taken the Nazirite vow at Chencrea (Acts 18:18)

2. Numbers 6 & the Nazirite vow explained.

a. Shave the head at the beginning of the vow to separate himself to the Lord.

b. Do not cut the hair for the entire time of the vow.

c. At the end of the term of the vow

1. Go to the Temple, and bring 3 animals for a sacrifice – a newborn male sheep, a newborn female sheep, and a ram.

2. After 7 days, when the ram is to be sacrificed, shave head again and put it in the fire under the ram.

3. Paul was unable to shave his head to complete his vow (vs. 27), the seven days were ALMOST ended when Paul was arrested. His long hair was not cut off.