## **ACTS TO REVELATION**

### Drive Thru History | The World of the First Christians

### This Week's Scripture

Read Acts 28:11-31, Romans, 1 & 2 Peter

#### **Additional Resources**

#### WHY DID JESUS DIE?

Answer that question and you will understand the message of the Gospel of Christ. Our friends at HTB (Holy Trinity Brompton) in London, the creators of the Alpha Course, have a fascinating video that will help you explore that question. Click **HERE** to watch the video.



#### **ROMANS: NO CONDEMNATION**

The theological summit of Paul's letter to the Romans is in chapter 8. Paul writes, "There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death." Romans 8:1-2. Paul's letter to the Christians in Rome is a comprehensive explanation of the Gospel. If you can set aside 15 minutes and watch two Bible Project videos, you'll have a great overview of Paul's masterclass on the Gospel of Jesus.

Romans 1-4 | Click <u>HERE</u> Romans 5-16 | Click <u>HERE</u>



## A Final Journey to Rome

#### **REFLECTION QUESTIONS**

#### "I AM NOT ASHAMED OF THE GOSPEL."

Let's see if we can reconstruct the core message of the Gospel of Jesus from the theological masterclass Paul offers in his letter to the Romans. Read the verses below. As you do, summarize and explain, in your own words, each core point. What is the message that is conveyed in each of these verses?

- Romans 3:23
- Romans 5:8
- Romans 6:23
- Romans 8:1
- Romans 10:9

Now, let's see if we can explain the Gospel more personally, highlighting each of the key points in the verses above. How have you and do you personally interact with each of these truths? What impact are they having on your life?

#### THE IMPACT OF PAUL'S WITNESS TO JESUS IN ROME AND BEYOND

Review Acts 28:11-31. Based on what Luke records for us in this last chapter of Acts, describe the impact Paul's life had on the people in Rome. What other influence did Paul have in Rome that is mentioned in other New Testament letters and described by our virtual tour guide, Dave Stotts?

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## **Small Group Prayer Requests**

To help you pray for one another during the week, please take notes on the requests that are shared. Please remember that everything people talk about in your group is confidential..

# Watch This Week's **Episode Online**



IF YOU WANT TO REVIEW
EPISODES of Drive Thru History: Acts to Revelation, you can watch online at TubiTV.com. Just click HERE to watch episode 14, A Final Journey to Rome

## Week 15 Prep

**Read Hebrews** 

What are some of the places and relationships in your life where you have influence, even if it seems small? What are some of the ways God is using you or could work through you in those settings to have a positive impact for the Kingdom of God? What are some of the challenges you face in these settings and relationships?

While being detained in Rome, Paul wrote four letters that we have in the New Testament: Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians and Philemon. Collectively, these letters are often referred to as the Prison Epistles. What impact have any of these 4 letters had in your life?

#### PETER: A PILLAR OF THE CHURCH

The Apostle Peter came to Rome and most likely lived with Mark (this is the same John Mark we met earlier in the Book of Acts). It was here in Rome that Mark wrote the Gospel that bears his name. Remember, John Mark was the young man who abandoned Paul and Barnabas during their first missionary journey to return home. Paul refused to take Mark on a subsequent trip because of his decision, but Barnabas took John Mark under his wing and encouraged him. Peter, also believed in what God was doing in Mark's life. At some point, Paul and John Mark reconciled as both men grew in their relationship with Jesus (compare 2 Tim. 4:11). Who has believed in you and what impact has that had in your life? Who is God calling you to encourage this week?

#### **TRUE OR FALSE**

Dave Stotts points out in this week's video that in 1 & 2 Peter we are encouraged to grow up in our faith so we might discern what is true and what is false. In addition to this course, what is your current strategy for continuing to grow theologically and spiritually? What is helping you discern between ideas, values and priorities that are consistent with the Gospel of Jesus and ideas, values and priorities that are more in line with the cultural influences of a world attempting to organize itself apart from God?

#### **ACTS 29...**

The ministry of the Holy Spirit continued after Acts 28:31. To this day, God continues to write His story in and through our lives. How has God been writing His story of redemption in your life this week? What signs of His faithfulness have you experienced?

Share prayer requests and pray for one another.

#### **Notes from the Video and Discussion**

What other insights, questions, challenges, encouragements are you taking with you tonight? Record your thoughts and any action steps you intend to take in the space below.

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