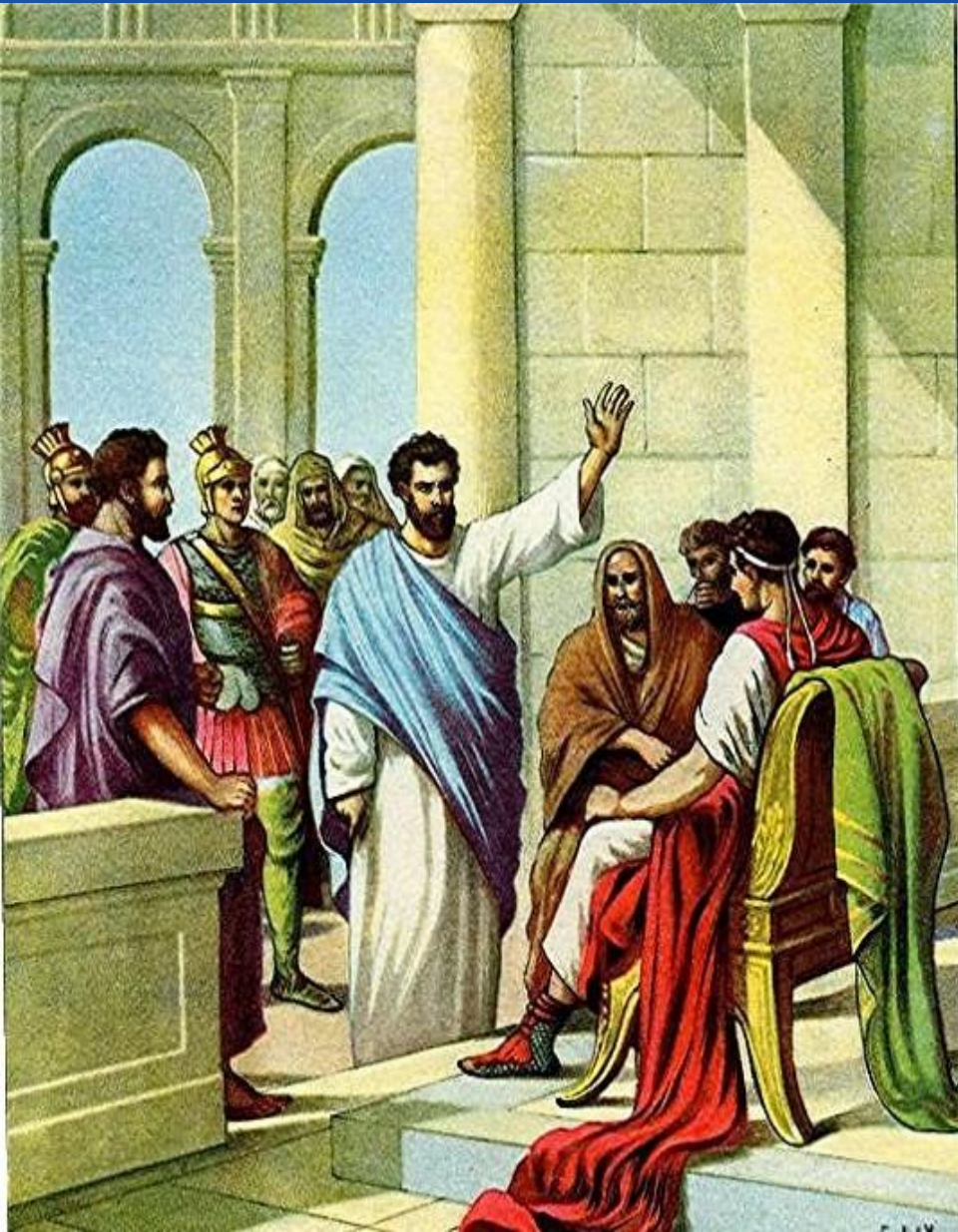


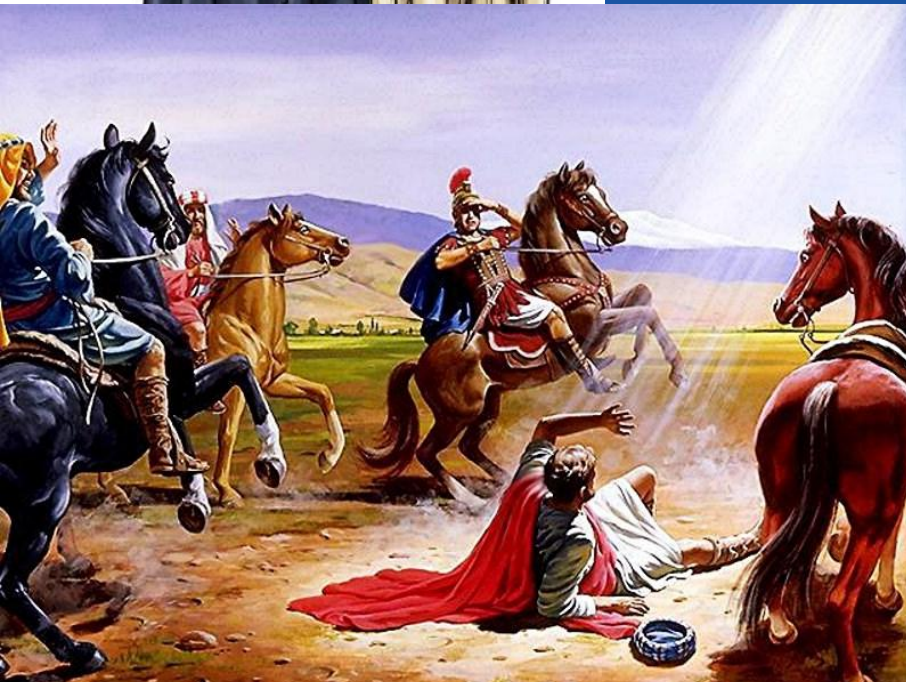
# PAUL ON TRIAL BEFORE FELIX



- Paul is in Caesarea Maritima, the provincial capital
- High Priest Hananyah is there with other members of the Sanhedrin
- Paul is described as a pest and an agitator
- The Way is viewed as an aberration and a non-conformist Jewish sect
- Paul is in Caesarea because Zealots plotted to assassinate him in Jerusalem

# THE REAL PROBLEM WITH PAUL

- Dispute had almost nothing to do with Paul's Messianic theology
- 1) Paul consorting with gentiles, not demanding circumcision
- 2) One time part of the Sanhedrin, now seen as a traitor
- 3) His Jewishness was being challenged
- The main issues were cultural and national, not religious



# PAUL'S DEFENSE

- Paul opens with the usual flattering words to the Judge (Felix)
- Paul in Jerusalem less than 2 weeks, and he came to “worship”
- Denies doing anything against the Temple, or the Synagogue
- The separation of Temple and synagogue is crucial to understanding the NT



# SEPARATION OF TEMPLE AND SYNAGOGUE



- Temple and synagogue operated independently
- High Priests and Sadducees ran the Temple
- Temple had become a lucrative business operation
- Temple was originally a legitimate, God-ordained institution
- As the heart and soul of Israel, the Temple was destroyed by Nebuchadnezzar just after 600 B.C. and the Priesthood never was the same again

# SYNAGOGUE A MANMADE INSTITUTION



- Created because people had no way to purify, atone for sins, and there was no direct authority over them to enforce the Law of Moses
- The core of their Jewish identity was the Temple, now wiped out
- Synagogue became the new symbol of Jewishness
- Synagogue was NOT evil, wrong, or instituted with wicked intent....but neither was it God-ordained
- Church is also manmade, as a gentile institution, established using many synagogue principles

# SADDUCEES VS. PHARISEES



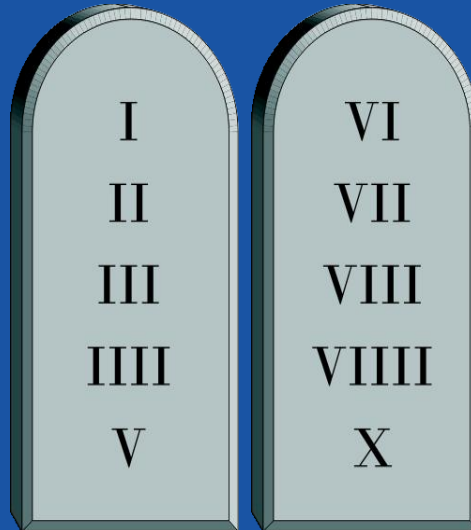
- Temple was originally to be operated by Tribe of Levi, but now was run by a social/religious party, the Sadducees
- Synagogue was always manmade, now run mostly by a social/religious party, the Pharisees
- Temple and synagogue were rivals, but not opponents
- Nearly every Jew had an attachment to one synagogue or another
- Neither Temple nor synagogue were condemned and deemed without value by Christ or by the Apostles

# WHAT DOES “LAW” MEAN?

This?



Or this?

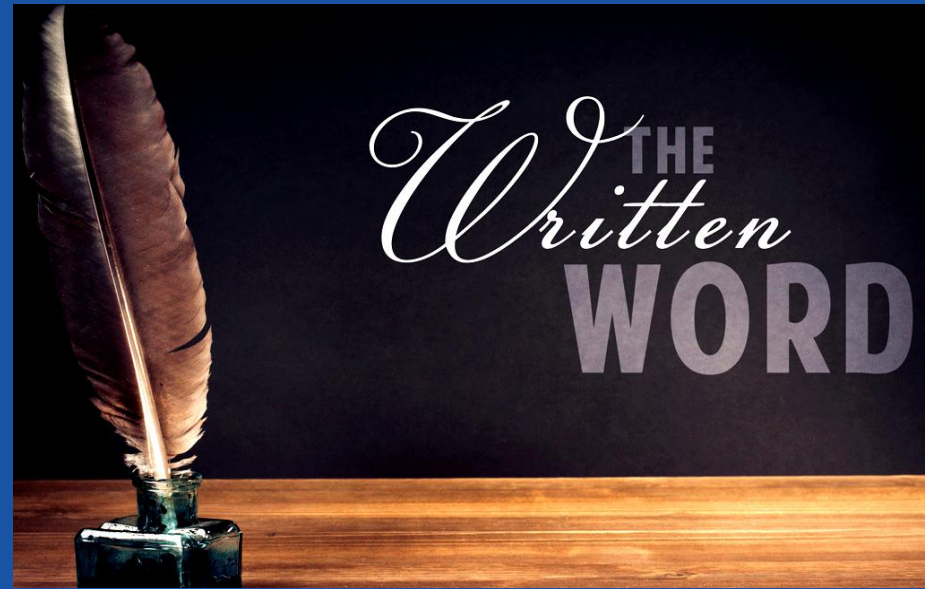


Or this?



- Paul says he did no wrong to Temple or synagogue
- Acts 24:14
- Paul clearly says that he believes EVERYTHING written in the Law and the Prophets
- **Nomos** = law (but it is a broad term)
- Paul says he believes “the Law and the Prophets”
- Hebrews divide the Bible into **Torah** (Law), **Nevi'im** (Prophets), and **K'tuvim** (Writings)

# WRITTEN VS. ORAL



- Paul is speaking of Biblical Law and NOT Jewish Law (*Halakhah*)
- *Grapho* = written down using an alphabet
- *Halakhah* would NOT be “written” until early in the 3<sup>rd</sup> century A.D. by *Yehudah HaNasi*, who created the *Mishna*
- Paul says:
- He is a Believer in Yeshua, is a member of the Way, worships God the Father (YHWH), and believes ALL things written in the Torah and the Prophets!!
- Paul agrees with Christ
- Matthew 5:17 - 19





# WHERE DO WE LOOK FOR TRUTH?



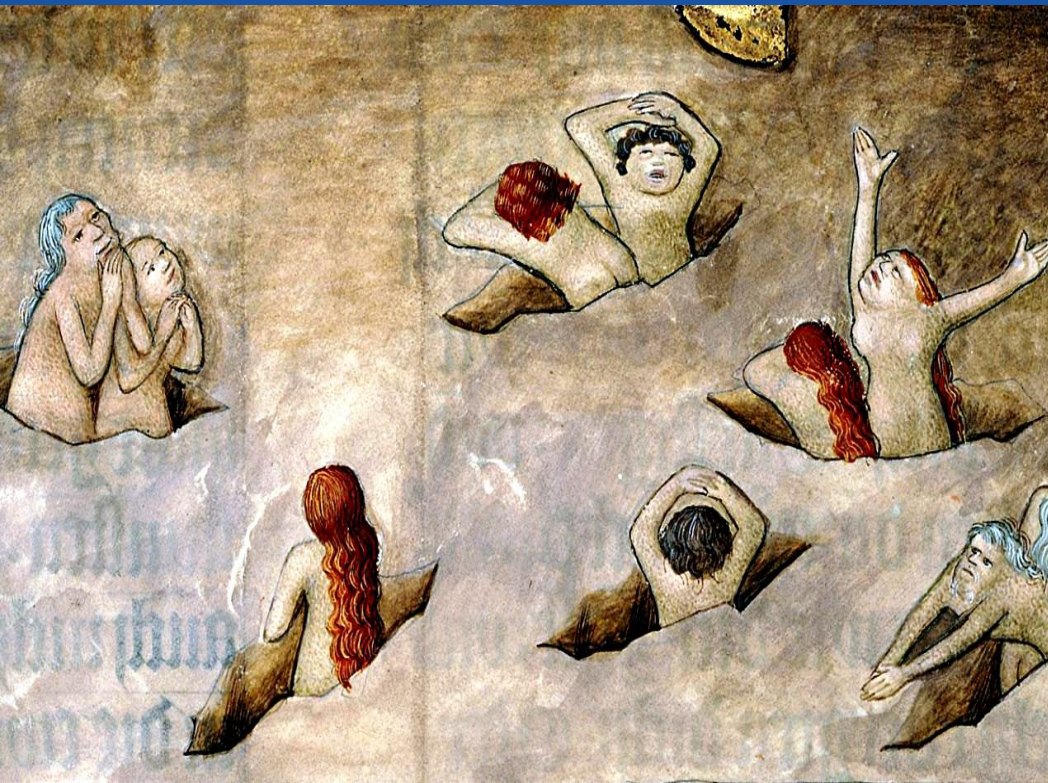
OR



- In this context Christ and Paul are telling us how to live **AFTER** we are saved !!
- Jeremiah 17:9 ***“...the heart is more deceitful than anything else and mortally sick....”***
- Mark 7:21-23 ***“....out of a person’s heart comes wicked thoughts...”***

# THE RESURRECTION OF THE DEAD

- A few days earlier Paul talked about resurrection in Jerusalem and it was bedlam!
- Paul says that both the righteous AND the wicked will be resurrected
- Wicked to judgment, righteous to eternal life
- John 5:24 – 29
- Pharisees would partly agree with Paul, they believe the soul of the wicked perishes
- Sadducees entirely reject resurrection



# HOW TO HAVE A CLEAR CONSCIENCE

- 1) Trust YHWH
- 2) Be connected to an assembly of Believers
- 3) Believe everything written in the Torah and the Prophets
- 4) Know for certain that upon death, you will be resurrected
- What happens at resurrection is based on decisions you make **BEFORE** you die

