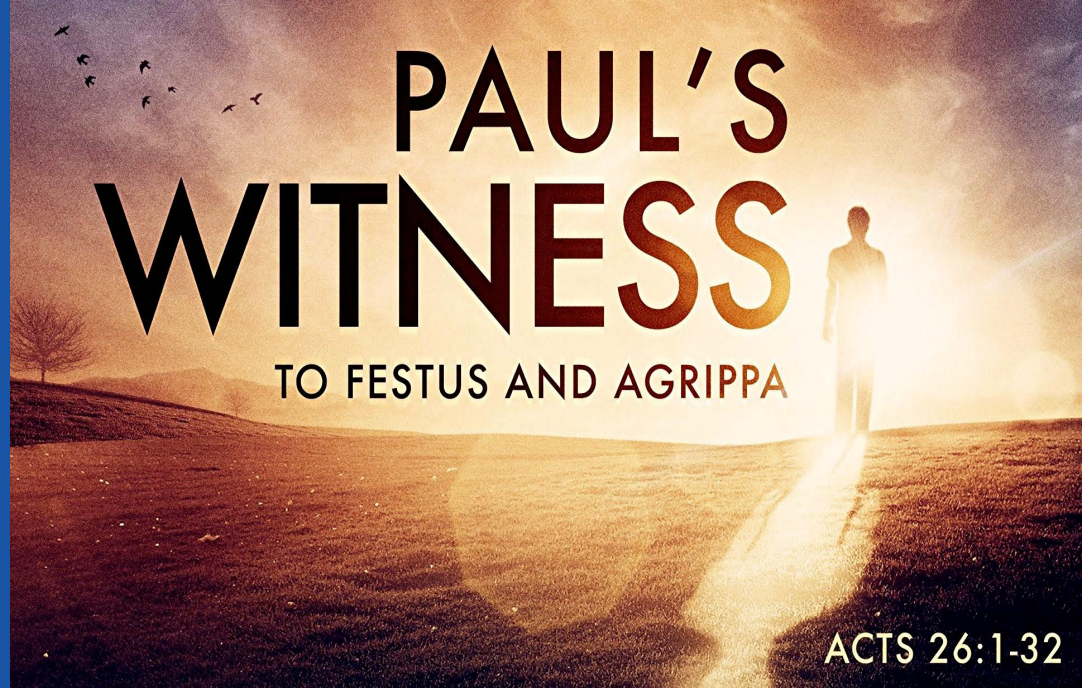


- At Caesarea Maritima
- Not a judicial trial; that has already occurred
- Festus caught in the same situation as the former governor Felix
- Festus's additional problem was that Paul had appealed to the Emperor (Nero)
- Festus was counting on Agrippa to help provide an explanation of the case against Paul





# PAUL SAYS HE USED TO BE A PERSECUTOR OF BELIEVERS



- Paul understands his adversaries' mindset, because he used to feel the same way
- Paul's position is that a new age has dawned, the Kingdom of Heaven has broken through, and it is time to accept God's will
- When Paul tried to get Believers to blaspheme, this means to say something against Jewish Law (*Halakhah*); it does not mean to renounce Yeshua



# PAUL'S "CONVERSION" EXPERIENCE ???



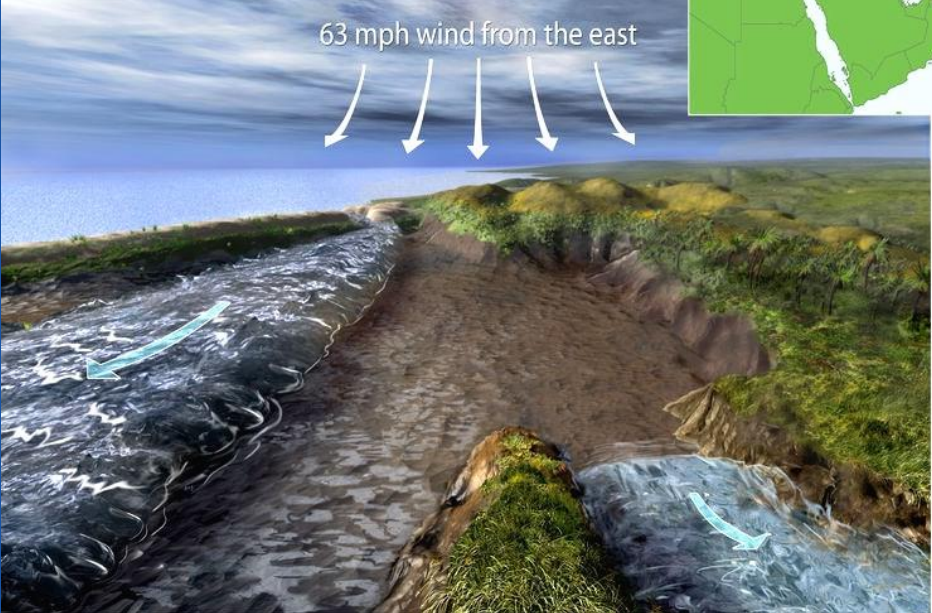
- Paul's life history has been given, so now he tells the "Road to Damascus" story
- Paul did NOT convert; to convert would mean he became a Gentile !!
- This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> telling of the story (Acts 9 & 22), with details slightly different each time
- Key is that this event was real AND it was supernatural



# NATURAL VERSUS SUPERNATURAL

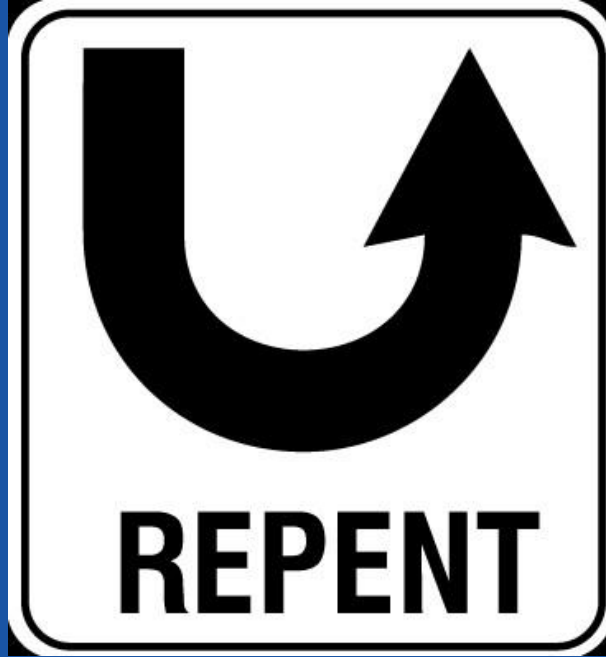
- *The Rabbi from Tarsus*
- Modern belief even among some Christians is that the “miracles” can be explained naturally
- Acts 26:14 says that Christ spoke to Paul in HEBREW!
- Paul and Jesus are English
- *Sha’ul* and *Yeshua* are Hebrew

## A natural explanation for parting the Red Sea



*the Living Torah*





# REPENTANCE AS PREPARATION FOR FORGIVENESS

- Paul says he was sent to give “light” to Jews AND to Gentiles
- Repentance is a prerequisite for forgiveness
- Confession is NOT repentance
- John the Baptist baptized for repentance
- Altar sacrifice without repentance had no effect

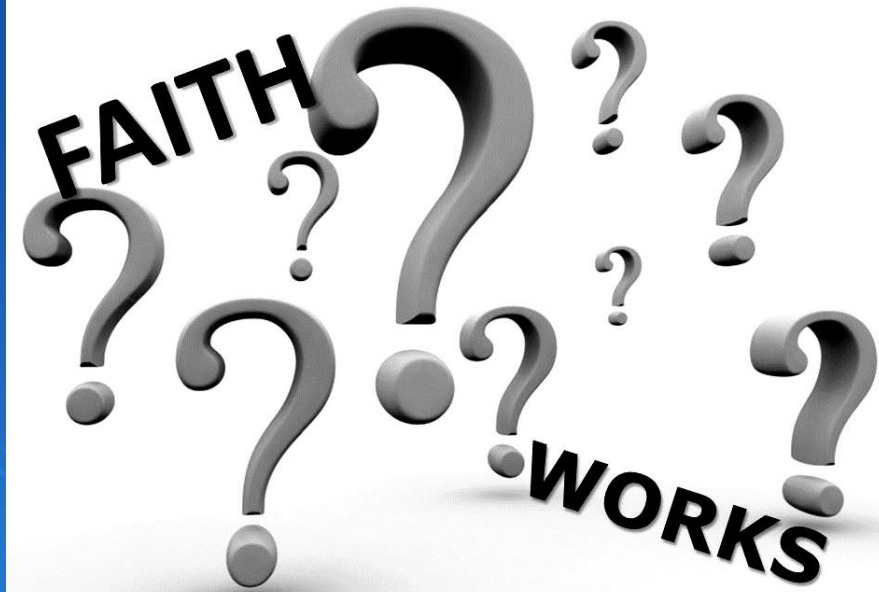
*Confession of sins*



# A CHRISTIAN STRUGGLE: FAITH OR WORKS ?



- James had strong words for those who thought to disconnect faith and behavior
- James 1:22 – 25
- Paul said works mattered
- Ephesians 2:8 – 10
- We tend to get either too faith-heavy or works-heavy
- While salvation is of grace, it ought to manifest in good works or something is wrong





# THE ISSUES AGAINST PAUL WERE CULTURAL, NOT RELIGIOUS

- Jewish leadership livid that Paul dealt with Gentiles
- Not “THE Jews”, but rather just “Jews”
- Paul says he did not create a new doctrine or go against normative Judaism
- “Following Moses” is shorthand for “following Law of Moses”
- Luke 24:25 - 27

## What does Prophecy say?

The notebook page contains a table with the following sections:

- 100 Prop**
- Prophecy**
- Issue: Death and Resurrection**
- Issue: The Son of Man**
- Issue: The Son of David**
- Issue: The Son of Joseph**
- Issue: The Son of Mary**
- Issue: The Son of God**
- Issue: The Son of Man**
- Issue: The Son of David**
- Issue: The Son of Joseph**
- Issue: The Son of Mary**
- Issue: The Son of God**

Callout boxes with arrows pointing to the table:

- A Prophet like Moses: Deut. 18:18-19**  
Fulfillment: John 6:14; Acts 3:22-23; Hebrews 3:1-6
- David's son; David's Lord at God's right hand: Psalm 110:1**  
Fulfillment: Matt. 22:41-45; Mark 12:35-37, 16:19; Acts 7:56; Romans 1:3; Ephesians 1:20
- Immanuel, God with us: Isaiah 7:14; 8:8,10**  
Fulfillment: Matt. 1:21-23; John 1:14
- The enthroned High Priest: Zech 6:12-13**  
Fulfillment: Hebrews 7:11-28; 8:1-2

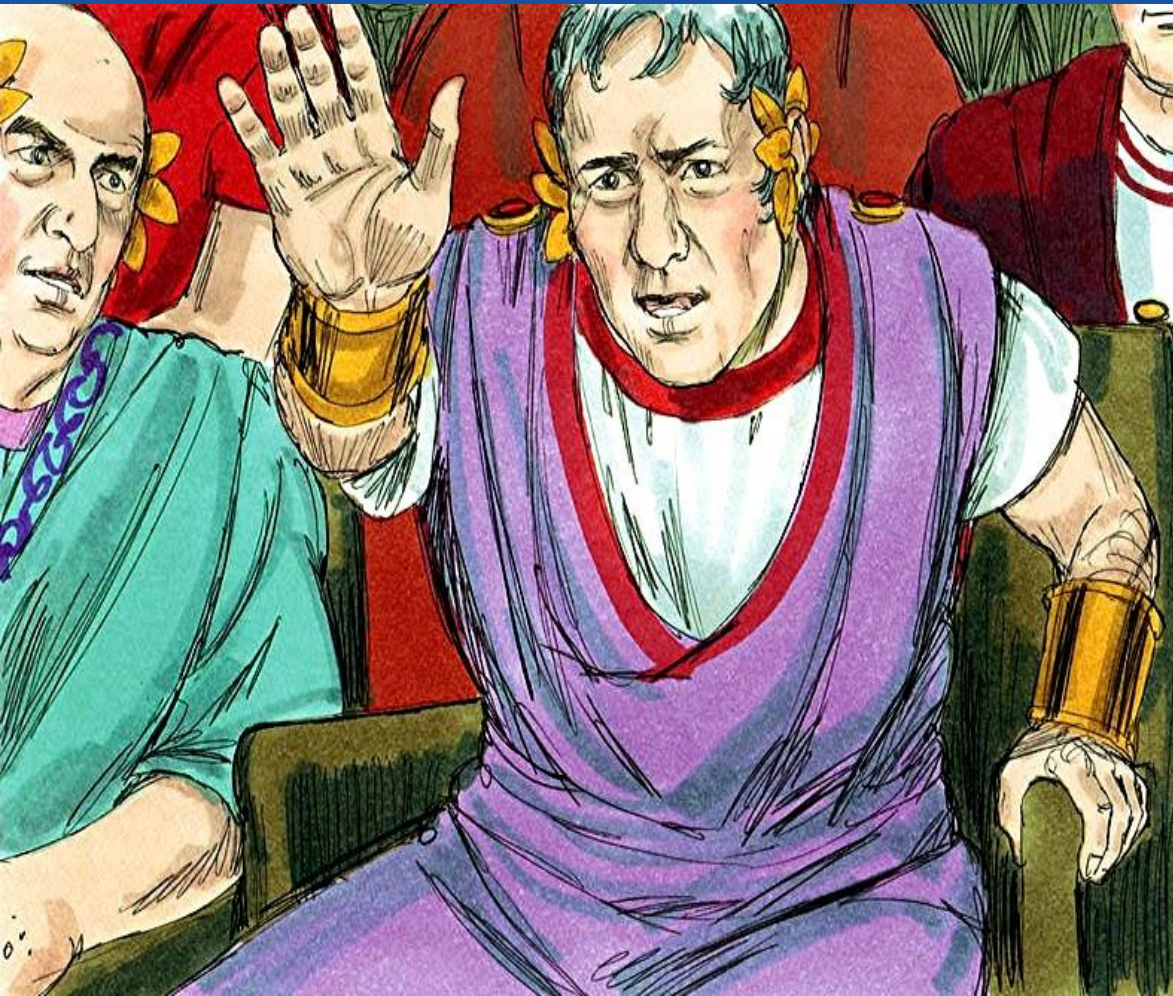
# *A light to the nations*

- If religious leadership in Paul's day believed the Bible, they'd see that Paul fit Isaiah 49
- Isaiah 49:5 – 6
- Light = **owr**
- Not a light emitting object like a light bulb
- A spiritual term that means God's enlightenment, truth, good





# FESTUS THINKS PAUL IS CRAZY!



- Festus is an intelligent and educated man who doesn't know God
- 1Cor.2:14
- Paul's words were noise and clatter to him
- Festus had no spiritual capacity to grasp God's truth
- Until the Lord has done a work in people, they have no capacity to grasp the truth



# AGRIPPA HAS HEARD ENOUGH

- 1 Deny yourself...
- 2 Take up your cross daily...
- 3 Follow me...

*WHAT IS YOUR LIMIT TO  
SELF-SACRIFICE ?*

- Paul asks Agrippa if he believes the prophets
- Agrippa can't fathom why Paul would appeal to the Emperor
- Even unpleasant things in our lives may be all about God's plan for us
- Luke 9:23