

Where's Your Chair?

Acts 22 1-11



My mouth shall speak the praise of the Lord,
and let all flesh bless his holy name for ever and ever.
Psalm 145:22

Praising:

Now we rejoice to name him
King:
Jesus is Lord of all the earth.
This gospel-message we
proclaim;
we sing his glory, tell his worth.

Reading:

Acts 22:1-12
Paul's defence before the people

Paul speaks in Hebrew to impress upon the crowd that he is one of them. He begins by stating his Jewish credentials. A Jew by birth, a native of Tarsus a respected seat of Jewish learning, a Rabbi and student of the revered teacher Gamaliel, Paul insists that previously he had been every bit as zealous as are the crowd now paying for his blood. As proof that he had been an energetic persecutor of

Christians, Paul points to the high priest and council who had once sent him off to Damascus as their trusted envoy. But it was on his way to Damascus that everything changed. Paul relates the blinding light, the voice and his instruction from God to await further instructions. Paul's speech is less of an argument and more a telling of his life story to date.

Listening:

Praying:

Lord free me to speak of my experience of you

- rather than doing everything I can to avoid revealing I'm a Christian
- rather than groping for arguments or eloquence to make the case for faith
- rather than feeling I have to justify what you have shown me to be true

Father: it is enough to say I know your forgiveness, enough to say I have met with Jesus, enough to say I sense your Spirit in me. May I never stop short of doing so. Amen

Doing:

Tuesday, 28 June 2016