

Where's Your Chair?

Acts 24 10-21



In the day of my fear I put my trust in you, in God whose word I praise.
In God I trust, and will not fear, for what can flesh do to me?
Psalm 56:3-4

Praising:

Bold shall I stand in thy great day,
for who aught to my charge can
lay?

Fully through thee absolved I am
from sin and fear, from guilt and
shame.

Reading:

Acts 24:10-21

Paul speaks in his own defence

Paul barely dignifies the accusations made against him with an answer. Formally acknowledging Felix's authority as judge, Paul flatly rejects claims that he has been arguing in the temple or agitating for unrest in the streets. But he is quite ready to state what he does believe and adhere to as a follower of the Way. The group who should really be bringing the case against Paul are the very ones

who are not there: the Jews from Asia who had been the first to instigate a confrontation. The tragedy for Paul is that he has been arrested and accused while he was delivering to Jerusalem the gift of money from the various European churches, and while he was undergoing the Jewish rites of purification. As Paul sees it now, he is standing trial for the resurrection.

Listening:

Praying:

We pray Lord that we may always be found serving and worshipping you

- lead us to those in need and show us ways we can bring them your love
- stir us to praise and prayer that your kingdom and glory would be our reason for being
- equip us to take a stand for you in every situation in which we find ourselves

Father: make me ready, willing and able to speak up for Christ, to confess my weakness, to acknowledge my constant need of his mercy, and to point to the hope that is mine in him. Amen

Doing:

Thursday, 07 July 2016