

Where's Your Chair?

Acts 28 23-30



So will I always sing praise to your name, and day by day fulfil my vows.
Psalm 60:8

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 28:23-30
Under house arrest, Paul
preaches in Rome

This closing chapter of Acts marks the spread of the Gospel through from Jerusalem to the capital of the empire, Rome itself. Still under house arrest, the Jews must come to Paul to discuss his claims about Jesus. As happens everywhere else, some of Paul's hearers embrace his message and encounter the reality of the risen Christ, others do not. As the delegation leaves, Paul quotes a

passage from Isaiah which Christians often used to explain the Jews' rejection of the Gospel. Presumably he hopes these familiar words from the prophet may melt their hearts where his own words had failed to do so. For two full years Paul continues to make his case for Christ, indeed this is the image of Paul the author leaves us with: an apostle proclaiming the kingdom and teaching about Jesus.

Listening:

Praying:

Keep us faithful Lord, right to the end

- praising, praying and proclaiming Christ's love while we have breath to do so
- resisting the temptation to walk away, give in and say we've done enough
- dying as we have lived, in the shadow of the cross, and in the light of the empty tomb

Father: you call me to keep on keeping-on – believing and serving, trusting and hoping, Christ before me and your Spirit behind me. Help me Lord, for I can't do it without you. Amen

Doing:

Wednesday, 27 July 2016