## The Apostle Paul (Saul)

## **First Baptist Church**

Wednesday Night Bible Study Week 13 Paul in Rome and His final Years. AD 60-66

For our final night of study, we will review Paul's time in Rome as revealed in the book of Acts and what many believe he did after the book of acts ended. We have just a few points to look at in the text tonight.

Read Acts 28:17-21

Why do you think Paul automatically defends himself before these Jews living in Rome?

Have you ever met someone for the first time and someone you knew gave you an inaccurate description of what kind of person they were? Have you ever been misrepresented in such a way?

I am always surprised at the number of people who will traffic in wrong information. Paul was concerned that those who had been pursuing him all these years had arrived before he did to ruin his reputation before he even got a chance to meet them himself.

This kind of behavior is magnified in a time when social media is so pervasive. We need to remember that Satan is always at work, and he is the accuser of the brethren. We should not automatically believe what we hear or read about a person.

Proverbs 10:18	Proverbs 16:28
Proverbs 20:19	Proverbs 26:20
2 Corinthians 12:20	Rev. 12:9-11

God is watching and listening. Let us not engage in careless talk or even false allegations. And when we are the victims of it, trust that God will protect. Psalm 27:10-14

Acts 28:22-24 Thankfully Paul was able to teach concerning Christ. He continues to be faithful to his mission. Some of his listeners did not believe in his message, they were obstinate. So Paul speaks a prophecy over them that had duel fulfillment.

Acts 28:25-28 This was spoken to those living in Isaiah's time and applies to this very day. It will remain until the time of the gentiles is over. Romans 11:25-31

Acts 28:30-31 and beyond.

It is believed that Paul was released from prison after two years. He probably returned to Macedonia, Achaia and Asia and then travelled to Spain. This was his original plan four years earlier before he was arrested and appealed to Caesar. Romans 15:23-25

Paul travels for about 4 more years. He is arrested once again during Nero's reign of terror and persecution of Christians. The last letters he writes guided by the Holy Spirit are written to Timothy and Titus. In his 2<sup>nd</sup> letter to Timothy Paul writes of His soon departure from this life. 2 Tim 4:6-8.

Tradition states that Paul was beheaded by order of Caesar in AD 66.