INTRODUCTION:

A. Paul has been kept by Felix vs. 21
   1) He will send him to Caesar
   2) He has no charge to make

B. He questions Agrippa vs. 14
   1) Agrippa consents to hear Paul vs. 22
   2) He will hear him, "on the morrow"

C. The fantastic assembly vs. 23
   1) "great" + "pomp" = phantasia = "phantasy" = "pagentry"
   2) "Bernice, chief captains, principal men of the city"

I. Paul is Introduced by Festus vs. 24-27

A. The Jews estimate of Paul
   1) They have dealt with him
   2) "he ought not to live any longer"

B. Festus' estimate of Paul vs. 27
   1) He does not deserve death
   2) I will send him to Caesar
   3) I don't have a charge
   4) "unreasonable" = alogos = "without the word",
      "without a reasonable explanation"
   5) "crimes" = aitia = "a cause", "ground", "a charge,
      whether true or false"

II. Paul Answers For Himself 26:1

A. "thou are permitted to speak for thyself"
   1) "permitted" = epitrepo = "to turn or trust to
      another", "give up, yield", "suffer"
   2) "answer" = apolegeomai = "to talk one's self out of a
      difficulty", "to defend one's self before a tribunal or
      elsewhere"

B. Paul counts this a blessing
   1) "happy" = makarios = "happy", "blessed" vs. 2
   2) I am accused, not guilty, accused

C. The source of Paul's optimism vs. 3
   1) "expert" = gnostes = "a knower", "one who knows"
   2) "patiently" = makrothumos = "long suffering"
D. The real issue with the Jews
   1) Not my being a Jew
   2) Not my early life-style
   3) Not my morality
   4) It is the resurrection from the dead
   5) "incredible" = apistos = "not to be trusted"
   vs. 4-9

E. Paul's early attitude toward Jesus
   1) "I ought to do many things contrary it"
   2) "contrary" = enantios = "over-against", "opposite"
   3) "I imprisoned the saints"
   4) "I gave my voice against them"
   5) "I punished them oft"
   6) "I compelled them to blaspheme"
   7) "I trailed them to strange cities because I was "mad" = emmainomai = "to rage, to be furious", and then I persecuted them.
   vs. 9-11

F. Paul's Damascus road experience
   1) It was at midday
   2) There was a light
   3) There was a voice
   4) There was a commission
   vs. 12-18

G. Paul's reaction to the encounter
   1) "I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision" vs. 19
   2) To the Jews and to the Gentiles I preached, "repent and turn to God" and, "do works meet for repentance" vs. 20
   3) This is why I am here
   vs. 21

H. Paul's immediate business
   1) "witnessing both to small and great"
   2) "small" = mikro "great" = mega
      "I preach to the microscopic and the mega ones" vs. 22
   3) I say what the prophets and Moses said"
   4) Verse 23 - Paul's message
   vs. 22

III. Festus' Reaction to Paul's Message
A. Festus thought Paul was insane
   1) "besides thyself" = maïne = "to rage", "Paul, you are raging", "Paul, you are out of control mentally"
   2) "much learning" = gramma = "the thing written", "letters" Too much study has driven you mad!
   vs. 24

B. Paul's denial
   1) I am not mad!
   2) "truth" = alethes = "unconcealed", "open"
   3) "soberness" = sophrosyne = "soundness of mind", "prudence", = "dignified restraint"
   vs. 25
IV. Agrippa's Reaction to Paul's Answer

A. Paul challenges Agrippa to decide
   1) "The King knoweth of these things"
   2) "speak freely" = parresiazomai = "to speak boldly and openly"
   3) "None of these things are hidden from him"
   4) "They were not done in a corner"

B. "King Agrippa believest thou the prophets?"
   1) "I know that thou believest"
   2) This is not sarcasm

C. "Almost persuaded"
   1) "almost" = en oligo = "in a short time" = "to a degree"
   2) "persuaded" = peitho = "to win by words"
   3) "To a small degree I am persuaded that what you say about Christianity is true", "I am brought a short distance by what you have said"

D. Paul demonstrates fully persuaded
   1) "I pray to God"
   2) That all who hear me this day
   3) Were fully committed
   4) "except these bonds"

V. The Verdict of Agrippa

A. This man does not deserve death
   1) "when they had gone aside"
   2) "This man hath done nothing worthy of death"

B. His appeal to Caesar keeps him bound
   1) "liberty" = apoluo = "to set loose", "free"
   2) Paul did not make a mistake