

Lost In The Credits

Julius

(Acts 27)

- Introduction:
1. Not many people would recognize the name, "Julius."
 2. Yet, while he had a "minor" role in the biblical narrative, there are challenging lessons to glean from his brief "on screen appearance."

I. Background & Historical Setting

- A. Paul had appealed to Caesar in order to save his life.
- B. Paul bound by Felix and Festus (Acts 24-25).
- C. Julius is a Roman Centurion who was given custody of Paul on his journey to Rome.

II. Practical Lessons Learned from Julius

- A. Stop judging people by the group (27:1).
 1. If we were to ask, "What do you think when you think of a first century, Roman soldier?"
 2. Julius seemed to be fair and compassionate...and so did the other centurions to whom we are introduced.
 1. Cornelius (Acts 10).
 2. No greater faith in all Israel (Matthew 8:5-13).
 3. (Matthew 7:1).
- B. He wasn't a Christian but he was kind (27:3).
 1. There are good, conscientious people in the world.
 2. All who are not Christians are not Christians because they hate God.
 3. Sometimes, people of God are outshined by the love of the world.
 4. (Judges 19).
- C. His trust grew (27:31-32).
 1. At first, he believed the sailors over Paul, the tentmaker (27:10-11).
 2. But his faith grew (27:31-32).
 3. Sometimes, people come to believe in us before they believe in God.
 4. (2 Corinthians 3:2).
 5. (John 4:39-41).
- D. He risked his life for Paul (27:42-43).
 1. He stopped a plan to kill Paul, risking his own life that all the prisoners would not escape.
- E. He helped the spread of the gospel (28:16).
 1. Paul spent two whole years in a rented house, receiving guests and preaching the gospel.
 2. (Philemon 10).
- F. Unless he obeyed the gospel, in spite of his goodness, he was lost.
 1. (John 8:24).
 2. If being "good" can save, then why did Jesus die on the cross?
 3. (Romans 3:9-10).