

TEAR DOWN THESE WALLS

ACTS 21:17-36

How did you see God working in your life this week? (Romans 1:11, 12)

TO GRACE. “The Jewish Zealots were saying, in effect, we are saved by grace but kept by the Law.” Kent Hughes, Acts, page 294. Paul found common ground to testify to the Jews. (**Acts 21:17-26, fn 21:23, 24[2nd]**, **Galatians 1:6, fn 1:6, Galatians 3:1-5, fn 3:2, 3, Colossians 2:6, 7, fn 2:6, 7, I Corinthians 9:19-23, fn 9:22, 23**) *What are some walls to grace that prevent your growth in Christ?*

TO LOVE. At the Temple, a wall divided the outer Court of the Gentiles from the inner courts which were off limits to the Gentiles under penalty of death. ESV Study Bible, footnote for Ephesians 2:14. To the unknowing Jews, this wall represented God’s dislike for the Gentiles. It was to be a place of Jewish evangelism to the Gentiles, a place for winning proselytes to Judaism. John MacArthur, The McArthur New Testament Commentary, page 77. (**Acts 21:27-29, John 3:16, fn 3:16[1st]**, **Mark 11:15-17, fn 11:15-17[2nd]**, **Ephesians 2:11-22, fn 2:11-16**) *How could you break down the walls and love your family with the love of Jesus?*

TO FAITH. These Jews did not understand the Old Testament teaching that they (and the Messiah) were to be a light to the Gentiles. Without this knowledge from God, they did not have the faith they needed for their lives and were trying to kill Paul. (**Acts 21:30-36, Acts 22:21, 22, fn 22:21,22, Hosea 4:6, fn 4:6-9, Isaiah 53:11, fn 53:11, Romans 10:16-21, fn 10:18-20, Acts 17:11**) *How has knowledge of Jesus enabled you to break down walls of unbelief and allow Him to build your faith?*

The Bible was not written for our information only but for our transformation. *How will these verses change you in your walk with God and others?*

Pray for one another’s needs.

Who in your group needs your encouragement by phone or personal attention?

