

Acts of Jesus, Lesson 51: Day in Court

The most often recurring scene in the book of Acts, with exception of the apostles bearing witness to Jesus Christ, is the scene of a court room.

- ✓ Beginning with Paul and John on trial for healing a paralyzed man at the gate called beautiful all way to the end as Paul heads to a hearing before Caesar.
 - ✓ There are a total of no less than 7 different court proceedings in seven different courts of law everywhere from Jerusalem to as far away as Corinth.
 - ✓ In some ways you could say the book of Acts is an account of Christianity being on trial.
 - ✓ The bottom line is that you can condemn Christianity, you can execute it, you can legislate against, but you cannot stop it.
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1. **All these court proceedings in Acts brings to mind another court room and another judge before whom we will all stand someday. God!!!**

- ✓ Everybody wants their day in court, and the good news for us, although not for all of us, is that we're going to get it.
 - ✓ Everyone wants justice and they are going to get it, but it may not be what they want after all.
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2. **I want us, because of all the court appearances in Acts to consider our own court appearance.**

- ✓ Did you know that you have an appointment? **Hebrews 9:27 You can be early, but you can't be late!!**
 - ✓ "Christians won't be judged" Oh, won't they? **Romans 14:10-12.**
 - ✓ Christians will not be judged for sin because their sin was judged on the cross.
 - ✓ But we will be judged for what we did with our eternal life down here.
 - ✓ Our works will be tested by fire and either endure to praise and glory of God or they will be destroyed to our shame.
 - ✓ Either be entrusted with much because we were faithful with little down here or not entrusted.
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3. **Let's consider where everyone is heading if they do not trust Christ.**

- ✓ All sin will be judged, there'll be no escaping it, either your sins will be judged in Christ and He will pay for them or you will be judged for your sins and you will pay for them.
- ✓ There will be no escaping the inevitable.
- ✓ Let's quickly look at that scene: **Revelation 20**

Enter the Judge – Verse 11, Instead of "all rise" it will be "all run" but there will be no place to hide.

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Enter the Prosecution – Scripture says that either Jesus will be your advocate on that day or your adversary (the devil won't be there—you'll have a much fiercer adversary that day).

- ✓ The Son of the Living God, the One who men have denied, cursed, and ridiculed will stand at the right hand of Judge with the marks of cross visible in His body.

A Summons will be sent out – **Verse 13**, There will be no such thing as a no show that day.

Evidence will be presented – **Verse 12**, God made eternal laws and sin is the breaking of those laws and eternal laws demand an eternal punishment

Verdict will be announced, and the sentence will be rendered--there will be only one verdict — death.

The only ones to escape this verdict: **Verse 15, John 3:36**
