

Recap of 8/7/22 message by Joe Ricchuiti – Acts 24:1-16

1. Paul is falsely charged by the Jewish authorities with capital offenses in an effort to get rid of him.
2. Paul's answer is as much a witness as it is a defense. His interest is in the gospel and seeing others come to faith in Jesus Christ.
3. In his answer Paul speaks of the resurrection of both the righteous and the wicked.
 - "...to preach Christianity meant primarily to preach the Resurrection.... The Resurrection is the central theme in every Christian sermon reported in the Acts. The Resurrection, and its consequences, were the 'gospel' or good news which the Christians brought." (C. S. Lewis)
 - between death and resurrection, the righteous and the wicked exist in a conscious state
 - the believer (2 Corinthians 5:1-8; Philippians 1:23)
 - the unbeliever (Luke 16:19-31)
 - the resurrection of the just will take place in stages (first the rapture of the church)
(1 Thessalonians 4:16; then later the resurrection of tribulation saints and Old Testament saints)
 - the resurrection of the unbelievers (the unjust) takes place at the Great White Throne Judgment of Revelation 20:11-15.
4. Paul connects worship with belief in the Word of God.
 - "Jesus said we are to worship in truth as well [as in spirit], and thus He linked worship inseparably to truth. Worship is not an emotional exercise with God-words that induce certain feelings. Worship is a response built upon truth.... That is why expository preaching, and the systematic teaching of the Word of God are so important.... Word and worship belong indissolubly to each other. All worship is an intelligent and loving response to the revelation of God." ((MacArthur)