



## BIBLE RADIO PRODUCTIONS

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BIBLE ADVENTURES SCRIPT:

**A2137 ~ Before Felix and Drusilla.**

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*Welcome to Bible Adventures. Help for today. Hope for tomorrow. Jesus is Lord of all.*

The Apostle Paul had given his defence against Jewish accusations before the Roman governor Felix. The Scriptures don't tell us if Felix had more sessions with Paul or the members of the Sanhedrin who travelled to Caesarea for Paul's trial. Nor does the text say that the commander from Jerusalem came down to speak for or against Paul.

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DRAMA - [The Bible In Living Sound.](#)

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Felix and his young wife Drusilla wanted to hear more about the Christian faith. But their motives weren't entirely pure, as they weren't really seeking God but rather, to be entertained by some new teaching. Drusilla wanted to ask Paul some questions. Felix also had it in the back of his mind that Paul might be encouraged to offer him a bribe and thus be set free. But he had certainly misjudged Paul's character and integrity.

The Bible is very clear in many places that God is displeased with judges who can be bribed into bringing about a court decision that is not honest and fair to all parties. God Himself said in Exodus, Chapter 23: "You shall take no bribe, for a bribe blinds the discerning and perverts the words of the righteous."

In Proverbs, Chapter 10, it says: "Wealth you get by dishonesty will do you no good, but honesty can save your life." A man with a limp once bought a newspaper at a shop and walked home. When he arrived, he discovered that he had taken two papers. Not wanting this to be on his conscience, he limped all the way back to the shop and returned the extra paper to the shop owner.

A couple of weeks later, the newspaper shop was robbed. When the police came to take the owner's story, he said that there had been only two people in the shop at the time: the man with the limp and the other man. The owner said it couldn't be the man with the limp as he had returned a newspaper when he'd made a mistake and taken two. The police then interviewed the other man and he confessed to the crime.

We can think that doing such a small thing as returning a paper is too extreme. But did you know that less than 300 years ago, people were transported half-way around the world to Australia as criminals because they stole a loaf of bread at a time when they were starving hungry? Times since then may have changed but God hasn't! He wants us to be totally honest. As Christians, God's love is to be our motivation in all we do. Why? Our love for the Lord should motivate us to want to please Him. And next to our love for God, our motives should be unselfish love for others.

In Matthew, Chapter 3, John the Baptist said: "Do those things that will show that you have turned from your sins." That transformation counts with God: first repentance, then the fruit of repentance. In Romans, Chapter 8, it says: "Those who live as their human nature tells them to, have their minds controlled by what human nature wants. Those who live as the Spirit tells them to, have their minds controlled by what the Spirit wants. To be controlled by human nature results in death; to be controlled by the Spirit results in life and peace ... Those who obey their human nature cannot please God." And those people who call themselves Christians but show no change in their lifestyle or sinful attitudes and thoughts only deceive themselves.

The Apostle Paul wrote 13 books in the New Testament and a number of times he used the term 'faithful saying' to mean 'a teaching that's true and worthy of belief'.

Paul's sayings can be summarised into five categories:

1. Paul's faithful saying on SALVATION.

In 1<sup>st</sup> Timothy, Chapter 1, Verse 15, Paul said: "This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief." Paul who called himself a chief sinner who was saved by the Gospel. His point is that even the worst criminal can be forgiven and saved. Paul obtained mercy from the Lord and this was not what he deserved.

2. Paul's faithful saying on SUFFERING.

In 1<sup>st</sup> Timothy, Chapter 4, Verse 9, Paul said: "This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance. For to this end we both labour and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God, who is the Saviour of all men, especially of those who believe." If we do anything for Christ, we will suffer rejection and persecution. Trusting in the living God is not always easy and enjoyable as new converts find out the cost of labouring and suffering for Christ's sake and glory. But Jesus has promised to always be with us and to provide a way through that honours His Father in Heaven.

3. Paul's faithful saying concerning SERVICE.

In 1<sup>st</sup> Timothy, Chapter 3, Verse 1, Paul said: "This is a true saying: If a man is eager to be a church leader, he desires an excellent work." There is a need for men to enter the ministry but not for selfish personal reasons.

4. Paul's faithful saying on REWARDS.

In 2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy, Chapter 2, Verse 11, Paul said: "This is a true saying: 'If we have died with him, we shall also live with him. If we continue to endure, we shall also rule with him. If we deny him, he also will deny us. If we are not faithful, he remains faithful because he cannot be false to himself'."

5. Paul's faithful saying on TESTIMONY.

In Titus, Chapter 3, Verse 8, Paul said: "This is a faithful saying, and these things I want you to affirm constantly, that those who have believed in God should be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable to men." How a believer lives is important. Day-in and day-out believers are to maintain a good testimony for Christ. We are to never take a holiday from living our faith.

Grace is the liberty to serve, not the license to sin. In 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians, Chapter 5, Verse 17, Paul said: "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new."

*The drama is from The Bible In Living Sound.*

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