

Do you need to see the big picture or are totally ok with what you can see at hand? Jesus said, His Father is always at work. So, what's He up to in all the twists and turns we seem to witness in the 24 hr. news cycle?

The apostle Paul was on a mission, but he was hitting walls and resistance wherever he went. It had to take a toll on him. Or, did it? Today we dive into the continued account of the forces at work in his efforts to get the gospel to his "infinity and beyond." You've got to love the way he leaned on God through it all.

- *Under protective custody*

➤ **Take** _____ (23:11; cf. Joshua 1:5-9)

- *The plot thickens*

➤ **Trust God's** _____ **design** (23:12-32)

- *Deciding jurisdiction*

➤ **Be** _____ **as you** _____ **on Him** (23:33-35)

Personal Application and Interaction

1. Under what circumstances are you most in need of patience?
2. Paul was literally surrounded by roadblocks to his best efforts to get to Rome to share the gospel of Christ. Of the many things God did to assure him that he would get there [and more to consider after the Christmas season], which one would be most helpful to you?
3. What do you draw on when you are in need of patience and courage to face people or situations that frighten you?
4. Give some examples of your own personal encounters with the sovereignty of God.
5. Paul had a lot of time to think about how God was going to get him through his confinement. How did Paul hold it together? Who are you aware of that is actively resting in God's sovereign design in the midst of very challenging circumstances?



Patience and the Sovereignty of God

Acts 23:11-35

**Pastor John
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