**The Mission Continues
Acts 28:16-31 (page 803)**

**Main Truth**
As the book of Acts comes to an end, the mission of the church does not.

**Structure Thoughts**

**16And when we came into Rome, Paul was allowed to stay by himself, with the soldier who guarded him. 17After three days he called together the local leaders of the Jews, and when they had gathered, he said to them, “Brothers, though I had done nothing against our people or the customs of our fathers, yet I was delivered as a prisoner from Jerusalem into the hands of the Romans.  18When they had examined me, they wished to set me at liberty, because there was no reason for the death penalty in my case.  19But because the Jews objected, I was compelled to appeal to Caesar—though I had no charge to bring against my nation.  20For this reason, therefore, I have asked to see you and speak with you, since it is because of the hope of Israel that I am wearing this chain.”**

**21And they said to him, “We have received no letters from Judea about you, and none of the brothers coming here has reported or spoken any evil about you.  22But we desire to hear from you what your views are, for with regard to this sect we know that everywhere it is spoken against.” 23When they had appointed a day for him, they came to him at his lodging in greater numbers. From morning till evening he expounded to them, testifying to the kingdom of God and trying to convince them about Jesus both from the Law of Moses and from the Prophets.  24And some were convinced by what he said, but others disbelieved.**

**25And disagreeing among themselves, they departed after Paul had made one statement: “The Holy Spirit was right in saying to your fathers through Isaiah the prophet: 26“‘Go to this people, and say, “You will indeed hear but never understand, and you will indeed see but never perceive.” 27For this people's heart has grown dull, and with their ears they can barely hear, and their eyes they have closed; lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears and understand with their heart and turn, and I would heal them.’ 28Therefore let it be known to you that this salvation of God has been sent to the Gentiles; they will listen.”**

**30He lived there two whole years at his own expense, and welcomed all who came to him, 31proclaiming the kingdom of God and teaching about the Lord Jesus Christ with all boldness and without hindrance.**

 **Take Home Question: How do I continue the ministry of Acts?**

**Themes in Acts:** Witness, Growing Church, Glory of God, Filling of the Holy Spirit, Boldness, Prayer, Persecution