

## Chapter 22

*Being licenfed by the Tribune to fpeake to the people, he sheweth them that he was once as earnest on that fide as they now be: 6. and how ftrange and miraculous his conuerfion was. 17. They heare him quietly vntil he began to make mention of a vifion that fent him away from them to the Gentils. 22. Then they crie out vpon him fo, 23. that for their crying the Tribune comman-deth him to be fcourged. 25. Which yet by his wifedom he efcapeth.*

**M**en Brethren and Fathers, heare what account I doe render now vnto you. <sup>2</sup> (And when they had heard that he fpake to them in the Hebrew tongue, they did the more keep filence. *Act. 21, 39.* <sup>3</sup> And he faith:) I am a man a Iewe, borne at Tarfus in Cilicia, but brought vp in this citie, at the feet of Gamaliel instructed according to the veritie of the law of the Fathers, an emulatour of the Law as alfo al you are this day: <sup>4</sup> who perfecuted this way vnto death, binding & deliuering into cuftodies men & women, <sup>5</sup> as the high Prieft doth giue me teftimonie, and al the Ancients. *Act. 8, 3.* <sup>6</sup> Of whom receiuing letters alfo to the Brethren, I went to Damafcus, that I might bring them thence bound to Hierufalem, to be punifhed. <sup>7</sup> And it came to paffe as I was going, and drawing nigh to Damafcus at mid-day, fodenly from Heauen there fhone round about me much light: <sup>8</sup> and falling on the ground, I heard a voice fay- ing to me: Saul, Saul, why perfecutest thou me? <sup>9</sup> And I answered: Who art thou Lord? And he faid to me: I am IESVS of Nazareth, whom thou perfecutest. <sup>10</sup> And they that were with me, faw the light indeed, but the voice they heard not of him that fpake with me. <sup>11</sup> And I faid: What fhall I doe Lord? And our Lord faid to me: Arife and goe to Damafcus; and there it fhall be told thee of al things that thou muft doe. <sup>12</sup> And whereas I did not fee for the brightneffe of that light, being led of my companions by the hand, I came to Damafcus. <sup>13</sup> And *Act. 9, 1.*

one Ananias, a man according to the Law, hauing testimony of al the Iewes inhabitants, <sup>14</sup> comming to me, and standing by me, said to me: Brother Saul, looke vp. And I the self-same houre looked vpon him. <sup>15</sup> But he said: The God of our Fathers hath preordained thee, that thou shouldest know his wil, and see the Iust one, and heare a voice from his mouth: <sup>16</sup> because thou shalt be his witnes to al men, of those things which thou hast seen and heard. <sup>17</sup> And now what tariest thou? Rise vp, and be baptized, and <sup>a</sup>wash away thy finnes inuocating his name. <sup>18</sup> And it befel me returning into Hierusalem, and praying in the Temple, that I was in a trance, <sup>19</sup> and saw him saying vnto me: Make hast, and depart quickly out of Hierusalem: because they wil not receiue thy testimony of me. <sup>20</sup> And I said: Lord, they know that I did cast into prison and beat in euery Synagogue them that beleued in thee. <sup>21</sup> And when the blood of Steuen thy Witnes was shed, <sup>b</sup>I stood by and consented, and kept the garments of them that killed him. <sup>22</sup> And he said to me: Goe, for into the Gentils a farre wil I send thee.

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Act. 7, 38.

<sup>23</sup> And they heard him vntil this word, and they lifted vp their voice, saying: Away with such an one from the earth: for it is not meet he should liue. <sup>24</sup> And when they cried out, and threw of their garments, and cast dust into the aire, <sup>25</sup> the Tribune commanded him to be caried into the castel, and to be beaten with whips, & that he should be tormented: to know for what cause they did so crie at him. <sup>26</sup> And when they had bound

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<sup>a</sup> The Sacrament of Baptisme doth it self wash away finnes as here is plaine, & therefore doth not only signifie (as the Heretikes affirme) that our finnes be forgiuen before, or otherwise by faith only remitted. Wherby the Churches doctrine is proued to be fully agreeable to the Scriptures, that the Sacraments giue grace *ex opere operato*, that is, by the force & vertue of the worke and word, done & said in the Sacrament.

<sup>b</sup> Not only the Principals, but al that consent to the death or vexation of Christian men for the Catholike faith, doe highly offend: which the Apofte confeffeth here, that Gods mercie may be more notoriously glorified in him hereby.

him very ftraight with thongs, Paul faith to the Centurion ftanding by him: Is it lawful for you to whip a man that is a Roman and vncondemned? <sup>27</sup> Which the Centurion hearing, went to the Tribune, and told him, faying: What wilt thou doe? for this man is a citizen of Rome. <sup>28</sup> And the Tribune comming, faid to him: Tel me, art thou a Romane? But he faid: Yea. <sup>29</sup> And the Tribune anfwered: I obtained this citie with a great fumme. And Paul faid: But I was alfo borne to it. <sup>30</sup> Immediatly therfore they departed from him that were to torment him. The Tribune alfo feared after he vnderftood that he was a citizen of Rome, and becaufe he had bound him. <sup>31</sup> But the next day meaning to know more diligently for what caufe he was accused of

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the Iewes, he loofed him, and commanded the Priests to come together and al the Councel: & bringing forth Paul, he fet him among them.