

Chapter 25

After two yeares emprifonment the Iewes continue their fute againft him, foliciting the new Prefident Fefus, 6. firft at Hierufalem, then at Cæfareia: 9. where through the Iewes partialitie he is faine to appeale vnto the Emperour: 13. and is in the meane time brought forth by Fefus (giuing him good teftimonie, notwithstanding the exclamations of the Iewes againft him) vnto King Agrippa and his Queene Bernice.

Feftus therefore when he was come into the prouince, after three daies went vp to Hierufalem from Cæfareia. ² And the cheefe Priests, and principal men of the Iewes went vnto him againft Paul: and they defired him, ³ requesting fauour againft him, that he would command him to be brought to Hierufalem, laying wait for to kil him in the way. ⁴ But Fefus answered, that Paul is kept in Cæfareia: and that he would very fhortly goe thither. ⁵ They therefore, faith he, that are of abilitie among you, going downe with me, if there be any crime in the man, let them accufe him.

Crimes,
as v. 27.

⁶ And hauing taried among them not aboute eight or ten daies, he went downe to Cæfareia, and the next day he fate in the iudgement feat: and he commanded Paul to be brought. ⁷ Who being brought, there ftood about him the Iewes that were come downe from Hierufalem, obiecting many and greuious caufes which they could not proue; ⁸ Paul making answer, That neither againft the law of the Iewes, nor againft the Temple, nor againft Cæfar haue I any thing offended. ⁹ But Fefus willing to fhew the Iewes a pleafure, anfwering Paul, faid: Wilt thou goe vp to Hierufalem, and there be iudged of thefe things before me? ¹⁰ And Paul faid: At Cæfar's iudgement feat doe I ftand, where I ought to be iudged: the Iewes I haue not hurt, as thou very wel knoweft. ¹¹ For if I haue hurt them, or done any thing worthie of death, I refufe not to die. But if none of thofe things be, whereof

these accufe me, no man can giue me to them. ^{a)}I appeale to Cæfar. ¹² Then Feftus hauing conferred with the Councel, answered: Haft thou appealed to Cæfar? to Cæfar fhalt thou goe.

¹³ And when certaine daies were paffed, King Agrippa & Bernice came downe to Cæfarea to falute Feftus. ¹⁴ And as they taried there a good many daies, Feftus fignified to the King, of Paul faying: A certaine perfon was left prifoner by Felix, ¹⁵ concerning whom, when I was at Hierufalem, the cheefe Priests and the Ancients of the Iewes came vnto me, defiring condemnation againft him. ¹⁶ To whom I answered: That it is not the Romanes cuftome to yeald vp any man before that he which is accused haue his accufers prefent, and take place to make his anfwer for to cleere himfelf of the crimes. ¹⁷ When they therfore were affembled hither, without any delaie, the day following, fitting in the iudgement feat, I commanded the man to be brought. ¹⁸ Of whom, when the accufers flood vp, they brought no caufe which I thought il of: ¹⁹ but certaine queftions of their owne fuperftition they had againft him, and of ^{b)}one IESVS deceafed, whom Paul affirmed to liue. ²⁰ Doubting therfore of this kind of queftion, I faid, whether he would goe to Hierufalem, & there be iudged of thefe things. ²¹ But Paul appealing to be kept vnto the knowledge of Auguftus, I commanded him to be kept, til I fend him to Cæfar. ²² And Agrippa faid to Feftus: My felf alfo would heare the man. To morow, faid he, thou fhalt heare him.

^a If S. Paul both to faue himfelf from whipping and from death fought by the Iewes, doubted not to cire for fuccour of the Romane lawes, and to appeale to Cæfar the Prince of the Roman's not yet Chriftned: how much more may we cal for aide of Chriftiã Princes and their lawes, for the punishment of Heretikes, and for the Churches defenfe againft them? *S. Auguftine ep. 50.*

^b This whom he termeth by contempt, one IESVS, hath now made al the Romane Emperours & Princes of the world to know him, and hath giuen the feat of the Cæfars to his poore feruants, Peter & his Succeffours.

²³ And the next day when Agrippa and Bernice were come with great pompe, and had entred into the hal of audience with the Tribunes and principal men of the citie, at Fectus commandement Paul was brought. ²⁴ And Fectus faith: King Agrippa, and al ye men that are preſent together with vs, you ſee this man, concerning whom al the multitude of the Iewes called vpon me at Hieruſalem, requeſting and crying out that he ought not to liue any longer. ²⁵ Yet haue I found nothing that he hath committed worthie of death. But forasmuch as he himſelf appealed to Auguſtus, I haue determined to ſend him. ²⁶ Of whom what to write for certaintie to my Lord, I haue not. For the which cauſe I haue brought him forth to you, and eſpecially to thee, King Agrippa, that examination being made, I may haue what to write. ²⁷ For it ſeemeth to me without reaſon, to ſend a priſoner, & not to ſignifie his cauſes.

τὰς κατ' αὐ-
τοῦ αἰτίας