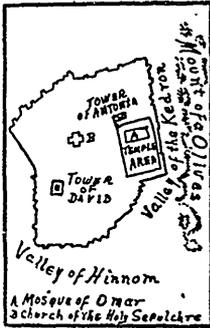


hundred men. **Soldiers**; heavy armed infantry. **Horsemen**; cavalry. **Spearman**; literally, "graspers by the right hand," from their carrying a spear in the right hand. The "spearman" were not Romans. There are thus three classes of soldiers mentioned. "Caesarea" was 50 miles northwest of Jerusalem on the Mediterranean seacoast. **Third hour of the night**; counting from 6 p.m., that is at 9 o'clock. The time of starting, as well as the size of the escort, shows how unsettled the times were. **Beasts**; for riding,—asses or horses, but not war horses. More than one would be required to provide relays or for baggage. **Safe unto Felix the governor**; the Roman ruler of Judaea, whose headquarters were at Caesarea.

Vs. 25-35 tell us that Paul's escort bore a letter from Claudius Lysias, the Roman commander at Jerusalem, to Felix, explaining why this prisoner was being sent to him. When Felix had read this letter, he ordered Paul to be kept in prison until his accusers should come to Caesarea.

THE GEOGRAPHY LESSON



At the southern end of the temple grounds in JERUSALEM there stands to-day a Mohammedan mosque named El Aksa. From the roof of this building, looking northward, one may see a piece of paved ground on which pilgrims are constantly walking about. A few rods ahead is a tall arched gateway of stone at the head of a broad stairway, also of stone. Beyond the stairway is a large eight-sided building, two

stories high, with a low central tower, finished by a beautifully curved dome. That building, known as the Mosque of Omar, or the Dome of the Rock, stands on the site of the ancient temple.

LESSON QUESTIONS

14, 15 Who made a conspiracy against Paul? With whom did they consult? What had they bound themselves to do? How quickly did they mean to do this? What was their plan? Where is it said that

the Lord will laugh at those who plot against him? (Ps. 2:4.)

16-18 Who informed Paul of the plot against him? How did the young man reach Paul so easily? To whom did Paul have his nephew taken? By whom? For what purpose? Find other places in which Paul calls himself a "prisoner"? What does the centurion's ready compliance with Paul's request show? Where is it said that there is no "counsel against the Lord"? (Prov. 21:30.)

19-22 How did the chief captain receive the young man? After the young man had told his story, what was he directed to do?

23, 24 Whither was Paul sent? What escort was provided for him? Who was the Roman governor at Caesarea?

FOR DISCUSSION

1. Ought vows always to be kept?
2. Will God always deliver from danger those who ask him?

A PRAYER

For deliverance and strength, we trust thee, O God, whether in the stillness of the night or in the tumult of the day. Always we hear thy voice pleading with us to yield to thee, assuring us of thy presence, teaching us of thy delight in lifting the fallen, cheering the faint-hearted, strengthening those who are weak. Father, increase our faith, and teach us how to glorify thee, through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Prove from Scripture—*That nothing can be hidden from God.*

Shorter Catechism—*Ques. 72. What is forbidden in the seventh commandment? A. The seventh commandment forbiddeth all unchaste thoughts, words, and actions.*

The Question on Missions—(Fourth Quarter, OUR MISSION TO TRINIDAD)—1. Where is Trinidad? Trinidad is the most southerly of the British West India Islands ten degrees north of the equator, lying off the mouth of the Orinoco River, South America. The coast of Venezuela, on a clear day, can be very clearly seen from Port of Spain, the capital of Trinidad.

Lesson Hymns—Book of Praise: the "Great Hymn of the Church"—Primary, 595; Junior and Upward, 438, 263, 297, 87 (Ps. Sel.), Ps. Sel. 96, 293.

FOR WRITTEN ANSWERS

1. What plot was formed against Paul?
2. How was he informed of it?
3. How was he saved from it?

SIGN NAME HERE