



# **Paul Is Arrested in Jerusalem**

**Acts 21:27-22:21**

**Dr. Sominex sat down in the Commander's chair on the bridge of the Skylab Omega and stared out the window at the outline of the planet below. She thought about Commander Cosmos, Lieutenant Ruby, Professor von Himmel, and the rest of the crew spreading God's Word on Planet Ephesus. "So, with everyone gone, I guess I'm truly in charge of the ship. I'll have to keep a sharp eye on things and make sure I keep the ship safe and sss... ." Dr. Sominex promptly leaned over and fell asleep on the armrest.**

**"Visitor arriving! Visitor arriving! In 5-4-3-2-1!" the computer's voice boomed over the speakers.**

**Dr. Sominex jumped up. "What? Who? What? I wasn't expecting any visitors!"**

**Moments later, Ambassador Nofutu bounded through the door from the teleport room. "Merry Easter! Happy Father's Day! Boogah, boogah, boogah, Kong-a-loosh!"**

**Dr. Sominex smiled at her goofy friend. "Ambassador Nofutu! What are you doing here?"**

**"Of course, it is time!" Nofutu announced mysteriously.**

**"Of course! It's time!" Sominex repeated. "For what?"**

**Nofutu plopped on the floor in the middle of the room. "Time for my Bible lesson! Every week I come to visit and have a special Bible study time with Lieutenant Ruby and Commander Cosmos."**

**"Oh...well, they're both on a mission, sharing God's Word with others on Planet Ephesus," Dr. Sominex explained. "They must have forgotten."**

**Nofutu put his head in his hands and covered his face. "Oh no! Say it isn't so! Woe is me! I am left, abandoned without my Bible time. This is a sad, sad day!"**

**Sominex patted his shoulder. "There, there, it's all right. Maybe...maybe I could read to you."**

**Nofutu looked up and grinned, "You'd do that for me? Hooray! Bible time! Bible time!"**

**"Sure, I'll get the Bible right now." Sominex lifted the lid of the box and let out a loud snore.**

**Nofutu poked her. "Dr. Sominex? Yoo-hoo! Dr. Sominex!!"**

**Dr. Sominex jerked upright. "Pi equals 3.14!"**

**"I'll have a slice of that pie!" Nofutu said, rubbing his stomach.**

**"What was I talking about?" Dr. Sominex asked. "Oh yes, the Bible!"**

**"Yes! What is today's lesson?" Nofutu asked. "Commander Cosmos and Lieutenant Ruby always pick out a special lesson."**

**"Well, I wasn't prepared for this. Do you remember what you studied last time?"**

**"Yes! We studied the Bible!" Nofutu pointed at the book in Dr. Sominex's hand.**

**Dr. Sominex sighed. "That's not much help. I'll tell you what. We'll play Bible Bingo."**

**"Hooray!" Nofutu cheered. "Bible Bingo! I love Bible Bingo...what is Bible Bingo?"**

**"It's when you open the Bible and whatever page you point to is the one you study." Dr. Sominex paused and began snoring loudly.**

**Nofutu leaned over until his mouth was right next to Dr. Sominex's ear and yelled, "BINGO!!"**

**"Wah!" Sominex jumped up. "You scared me!" She flipped open the Bible and pointed to Acts 21. "OK, here we go. Today's lesson is about Paul being under arrest."**

**Nofutu clamped his hand over his mouth. "Oh no! Poor Paul! How did he get under arrested?"**

**"He was in Jerusalem and some Jewish people recognized him. They shouted, 'Hey, that's the guy who teaches others against our people and our law!'"**

**"But, I thought Paul *was* Jewish?" Nofutu said, rubbing his chin in confusion.**

**"He was," Sominex continued.**

**"Why would he teach people bad things about the Jews?" Nofutu asked.**

**"He didn't. Paul loved everyone—including the Jewish people," Dr. Sominex explained. "He wanted all of them to give their hearts to Jesus."**

**"Did they all decide to follow Jesus?" Nofutu asked.**

**"Well, some did, but many did not understand Jesus was God's Son who had come to save everyone," Sominex said.**

**"Too bad!" Nofutu exclaimed. "Is that why they wanted to under arrest him?"**

**Sominex nodded. "Yes, in fact they dragged Paul out of the temple and tried to hurt him."**

**Nofutu replied sadly. "Poor Paul! Did God protect him?"**

**"He did!" Dr. Sominex replied. "God sent the commander of the Roman troops."**

**"Was it Commander Cosmos?" Nofutu said, clapping in excitement.**

**Dr. Sominex laughed. "I don't think so! It doesn't say his name, but he arrested Paul to quiet the crowd. The soldiers even had to carry Paul to keep him from getting killed."**

**"Oh, no! What did Paul do?" Nofutu asked, shaking his head in fear.**

**"Paul asked the commander if he could speak to the people," Sominex explained.**

**"He wanted to speak to the crowd that was trying to kill him? Do you think the crowd knocked him in the noggin?" Nofutu said, demonstrating with a knock on his own head.**

**"Paul wanted to tell everyone, even his enemies, about Jesus," Sominex assured him.**

**"Well, did Commander No Name let Paul speak?" asked Nofutu.**

**"Let's ask the Virtual Bible," Dr. Sominex suggested.**

**Nofutu grinned and snatched the remote from a nearby table. "Hooray, the beepity beeps! The beepity beeps! My favorite part!" he yelled gleefully, referring to the noise that came from the remote's buttons. After tapping in the verse, he read the words that appeared on the screen, "Having received the commander's permission, Paul stood on the steps and motioned to the crowd. When they were all silent, he said to them in Aramaic: 'Brothers and fathers, listen now to my defense.'" Nofutu looked at Dr. Sominex. "Defense? What was his defense?"**

**"Paul told them his whole story," Dr. Sominex answered.**

**"You mean about how he used to be a naughty boo-boo!? And how the bright light blinded him and Jesus called him to spread the good news all over the world!?"**

**"Yes, yes, yes!" Sominex laughed at her excited friend.**

**"Wow! I wish God would call me to tell people His story just like Paul!" Nofutu said.**

**Dr. Sominex smiled. "He did! He calls all of us to tell His story, even to this day!"**

**Nofutu smiled also. "Of course He does! After all, I know Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and forever!" He turned to the door. "Thanks for the lesson. Time to fly. Bye-bye! Kong-a-loosh!" Nofutu waved and bounced out the door as quickly as he came with Dr. Sominex staring behind him. A moment later, the scientist was slouched over in the Commander's chair, fast asleep.**