



Paul in Rome
Acts 28:14-31

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A close-up photograph of a person's hands clasped in prayer, resting on an open book. The background is softly blurred, showing more of the book and the person's arms. The lighting is warm and natural, creating a serene and contemplative atmosphere.

What will we learn?

- ❖ The word of the Lord will come to pass.
- ❖ Unbelief has consequences.
- ❖ Our calling > our comfort.



Acts 27

- ❖ God's providential will cannot be thwarted.
- ❖ We are still responsible for our decisions.
- ❖ The Gospel mission continues during difficult times.

Acts 28:14-15

And so we came to Rome. The brothers and sisters there had heard that we were coming, and they traveled as far as the Forum of Appius and the Three Taverns to meet us. At the sight of these people Paul thanked God and was encouraged.

A close-up photograph of a person's hands clasped in prayer, resting on an open book. The background is softly blurred, showing more of the book and the person's arms. The lighting is warm and natural, creating a peaceful atmosphere.

Acts 28:16

When we got to Rome, Paul was allowed to live by himself, with a soldier to guard him.



Jerusalem to Rome

MELBOURNE
COMMUNITY
CHURCH
REFLECTING CHRIST'S LOVE

A close-up photograph of a person's hands clasped in prayer, resting on an open Bible. The hands are positioned in the center-right of the frame, with fingers interlaced. The Bible is open, showing text on the pages, and is positioned in the lower half of the frame. The background is softly blurred, showing more of the Bible and the person's arms. The overall lighting is warm and natural, creating a serene and contemplative atmosphere.

Proverbs 21:30

**There is no wisdom, no insight, no plan
that can succeed against the LORD.**



Isaiah 54:17

... no weapon forged against you will prevail,

A close-up photograph of a person's hands clasped in prayer, resting on an open Bible. The hands are positioned in the upper right quadrant of the frame, with fingers interlaced. The Bible is open, showing two pages of text, and is positioned in the lower half of the frame. The background is softly blurred, suggesting a quiet, indoor setting. The overall tone is peaceful and contemplative.

Darrell L. Bock:

“God’s word can be trusted because God can be trusted. The only thing one does not know is when God will accomplish his will.”

Acts 28:17

Three days later he called together the local Jewish leaders. When they had assembled, Paul said to them: “My brothers, although I have done nothing against our people or against the customs of our ancestors, I was arrested in Jerusalem and handed over to the Romans.

Acts 28:18-19

“They examined me and wanted to release me, because I was not guilty of any crime deserving death. The Jews objected, so I was compelled to make an appeal to Caesar. I certainly did not intend to bring any charge against my own people.



Acts 28:20

“For this reason I have asked to see you and talk with you. It is because of the hope of Israel that I am bound with this chain.”



Acts 28:21-22

They replied, “We have not received any letters from Judea concerning you, and none of our people who have come from there has reported or said anything bad about you. But we want to hear what your views are, for we know that people everywhere are talking against this sect.”

Acts 28:23

They arranged to meet Paul on a certain day, and came in even larger numbers to the place where he was staying. He witnessed to them from morning till evening, explaining about the kingdom of God, and from the Law of Moses and from the Prophets he tried to persuade them about Jesus.

Acts 28:24-25

Some were convinced by what he said, but others would not believe. They disagreed among themselves and began to leave after Paul had made this final statement:
“The Holy Spirit spoke the truth to your ancestors when he said through Isaiah the prophet:

A close-up photograph of a person's hands clasped in prayer, resting on an open book. The background is softly blurred, showing more of the book and the person's arms. The text is overlaid on the image.

Acts 28:26

“Go to this people and say,
“You will be ever hearing but never understanding;
you will be ever seeing but never perceiving.”

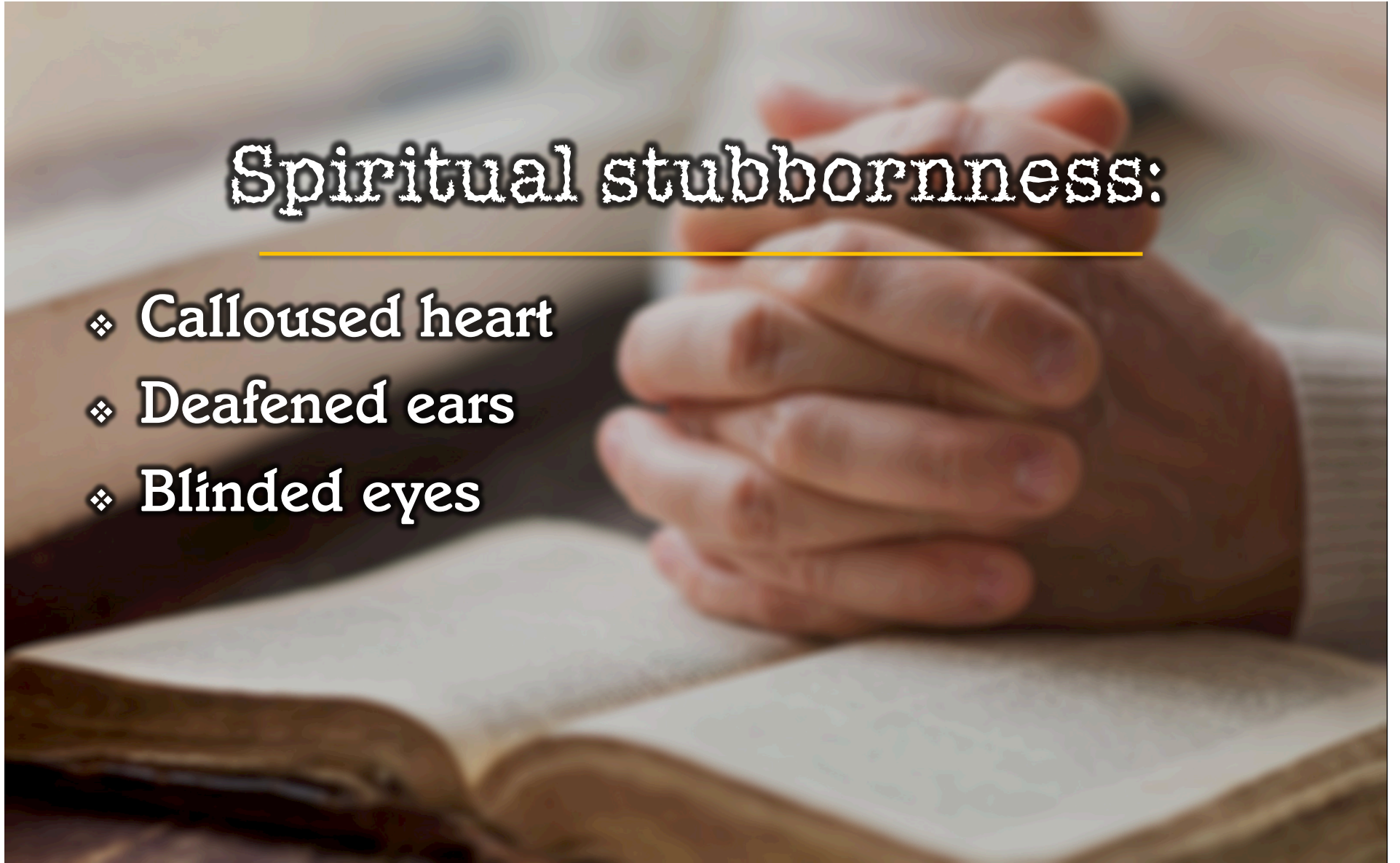


Acts 28:27

“For this people’s heart has become calloused;
they hardly hear with their ears,
and they have closed their eyes.
Otherwise they might see with their eyes,
hear with their ears,
understand with their hearts
and turn, and I would heal them.’

Spiritual stubbornness:

- ❖ Calloused heart
- ❖ Deafened ears
- ❖ Blinded eyes



Matthew 13:16-17

[Jesus to disciples]: “But blessed are your eyes because they see, and your ears because they hear. For truly I tell you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see but did not see it, and to hear what you hear but did not hear it.”



Acts 28:28

“Therefore I want you to know that God’s salvation has been sent to the Gentiles, and they will listen!”

Acts 28:30-31

For two whole years Paul stayed there in his own rented house and welcomed all who came to see him. He proclaimed the kingdom of God and taught about the Lord Jesus Christ — with all boldness and without hindrance!

Extra-biblical sources:

- ❖ Paul was tried and released in AD 62.
- ❖ He traveled “to the limits of the West.”
 - ❖ (Spain?)
- ❖ He was arrested and executed under Nero in AD 64.



Paul's letters

- ❖ After 1st missionary journey: Galatians
- ❖ During 2nd missionary journey:
1 and 2 Thessalonians
- ❖ During 3rd missionary journey:
Romans; 1 and 2 Corinthians

Paul's letters

- ❖ During 1st imprisonment in Rome:
Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, Philemon
- ❖ After release from 1st Roman imprisonment:
Titus, 1 Timothy
- ❖ During 2nd imprisonment in Rome:
2 Timothy

2 Timothy 4:16-17

At my first defense, no one came to my support, but everyone deserted me. May it not be held against them. But the Lord stood at my side and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. And I was delivered from the lion's mouth.

What have we learned?

- ❖ The word of the Lord will come to pass.
- ❖ Unbelief has consequences.
- ❖ Our calling > our comfort.





Are you being called?

- ❖ To receive Christ
- ❖ To become a member of Melbourne Community Church
- ❖ To pray / to receive prayer
- ❖ To affirm or reaffirm a commitment
- ❖ To receive the LORD's Supper