

# IGNITE

## A STUDY OF THE BOOK OF ACTS

### Missed Opportunities

Sunday, February 4, 2024

#### Acts 24

Acts 24 provides two incredible examples. One would be the apostle Paul, an example of how to be a bold and faithful witness when facing false accusations against the gospel. The second example is one of missed opportunities. Felix, the governor and procurator of Judea, was confronted by both Paul and the Holy Spirit with the truth. Rather than respond in repentance and faith, Felix resisted and rejected the spiritual opportunities placed before him. Today, we will focus our attention on Felix, a man who missed the most important opportunity of his life.

### Background information

**Felix:** He was the governor and procurator of Judea in A.D. 52. His wife, Drusilla, was one of three daughters of Herod Agrippa I. Felix had persuaded her to leave her former husband, Aziz, King of Emesa. One of her sisters, Bernice, married King Agrippa. Her father, Herod Agrippa, murdered James, John's brother, and sought to kill Peter in Acts 12. Her great uncle, Herod Antipas, slew John the Baptist, and her great-grandfather, Herod the Great, killed the babies in Bethlehem and sought to kill Jesus. Drusilla was Felix's third wife.

### Missed spiritual opportunities are often the result of....

1. **Procrastination (verse 22) (Proverbs 27:1; Luke 12:40)**
2. **Rejection of the Holy Spirit's conviction (verses 24-25) (John 5:33-40)**
3. **Wrong motivation (verse 26) (Mark 8:36)**

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### 4. A seared conscience (verse 27) (1 Timothy 4:2)

2 Corinthians 6:2 (NASB95) <sup>2</sup> for He says, “At the acceptable time I listened to you, And on the day of salvation I helped you.” Behold, now is “the acceptable time,” behold, now is “the day of salvation” —

Hebrews 3:7–8 (NASB95) <sup>7</sup> Therefore, just as the Holy Spirit says, “Today if you hear His voice, <sup>8</sup> Do not harden your hearts as when they provoked Me, As in the day of trial in the wilderness,