

Paul's Nephew Discussion

Remember that these monologues are essentially historical fiction, based on the Scripture but filling in plausible subjective details, both emotional responses and motivations. Your first task is to decide if they are reasonable.

If you read about a situation like this in the newspaper, would it be easy to consider it an incredible co-incidence?

Do you think it was a coincidence?

What are the characteristics of people who dismiss it as chance and those who see it as the providence of God?

Does this episode give any insight into the way God sometimes works?

Why might God want to include a young person in the carrying out of a significant responsibility?

Why was it wise for Paul to have send the boy to talk directly to the commander?

Do boys often fantasize about having a secret mission?

Would this be something the young man never forgot?

How would it affect his attitude towards his uncle Paul and his ministry?

Might his parents have reminded him that he helped save the life of the great missionary?

Imagine the conversations among the members of the Sanhedrin after their plot failed.

How do you suppose they rationalized breaking their oath?

Might they have realized that this was not just a result of poor planning but an example of Divine intervention?

What was likely the effect on the Roman commander?

Does God sometimes allow things to happen, or "almost happen," to show us how He is working behind the scenes?