

A map of Europe and the Mediterranean region, showing various countries and cities. The text 'To Rome!' is overlaid in large, bold, white letters with a black outline. The map includes labels for countries like Italy, France, Germany, and the UK, and cities like Rome, Paris, London, and Berlin. The Mediterranean Sea is visible at the bottom.

To Rome!

how Paul used his citizenship for the gospel

Roman Citizenship

- Exemption from torture or punishment without trial
- Protection from arbitrary or abusive local governments across the Empire
- Right to appeal and have your case heard in Rome



Jail in Philippi

Acts 16:19-40

- The charges and treatment – v. 19-24
- “We are citizens!” – v. 35-49
 - *Ensuring his ability to return*
 - *Protecting the Christians*
 - *Answering the charges*
- Moved on to preach elsewhere – v. 40



The Scourge

Acts 22:22-29

- “Examined by scourging” – v. 24
- Birth gave Paul higher status – v. 27-29
- Paul used citizenship to avoid needless suffering and continue testifying to the gospel (Romans 15:24)



Appeal to Caesar

Acts 25:10-12

- Paul's appeal –
 - *Asserted innocence*
 - *Prevented return to Jew's territory*
 - *Guaranteed a hearing in Rome – Acts 23:11, 27:24*
- In Rome –
 - *Paul preached openly – Acts 28:30-31*
 - *Paul fulfilled God's plan – Acts 9:15*



Our Citizenship

- Is a tool we should use to spread the gospel of Jesus – Philippians 3:20, 1 Timothy 2:1-4
- Is no guarantee we will not suffer for the gospel of Jesus – 2 Corinthians 11:23-28, 2 Timothy 1:8

