

*ACTS

The Continuing Work of Jesus

*Acts 28:17-31

The Ending that is Not an End

Not the End...

1. The Hope of Israel

- Israel had the promise of kingdom-resurrection hope to be brought by Messiah
- Jesus, the risen Messiah, has brought this hope in fulfillment of the Scriptures

Not the End...

2. The Rejection by Israel

- the majority of Jewish people rejected Jesus as Messiah because of their hardness of heart
- as a result of their persistent unbelief, preaching the gospel results in God's judicial hardening

Not the End...

3. The Receptivity by the Gentiles

- God has sent this salvation in Christ Jesus to the Gentiles who are now partakers of the promise given to Israel (cf. Eph. 3:6)
- God promises receptivity and fruitfulness among the nations

Not the End...

4. The Triumph of the Gospel

- though Paul is in chains, the gospel is proclaimed with boldness
- though Paul is in chains, the gospel is proclaimed unhindered (cf. 2 Tim. 2:9)

Not the End...

- Luke's "conclusion" shows...
 - the gospel is the content of our proclamation and the unchanging task of Jesus' witnesses
 - the mission is not finished—the gospel advance must and will continue to all nations

Not the End...

How will we continue the story of the gospel's progress?