

## Passage to Ponder

Our Passage to Ponder this morning from today's Bible study is Acts 26:8. Paul asked King Agrippa the following question in verse 8. He said,

Acts 26:8, why should it be thought incredible by you that God raises the dead?

In this chapter the Apostle Paul is given an opportunity to preach the Gospel to the pompous elite of his day. In verse 8 Paul asked King Agrippa a personal and pointed question; he asked him why did he think it incredible or as the word can be translated impossible that God raises the dead?

The reason Paul asked this question to him was he knew it wasn't incredible or impossible for God to raise the dead, but Paul said in verse 25 it's reasonable. The God of the Bible is a living God therefore would be reasonable for Agrippa to believe that God raises the dead.

Another reason why Paul might have asked Agrippa this question is given in verse 3; Paul said that Agrippa was an expert concerning the questions and customs of the Jews. This means Agrippa would have at least a general understanding of God and the Jewish scriptures.

He would have known that the God that was in question was the one that spoke the world and everything in it into existence in 6 literal days; He was the one that delivered the Jews from Pharaoh and Egypt by miracles and the parting of the Red Sea. He was the one that gave Israel power to conquer nations and He even made Pagan kings like Nebuchadnezzar worship Him and call Him God Most High.

Not only that but He also promised by the prophets to send the Messiah and raise Him from the dead and God has never broken a promise.

As a result of who God is and what He has done and said Paul was able to ask Agrippa, why should it be thought incredible by you that God raises the dead?

Agrippa's attitude and response to Paul's question is seen in his actions at the end of the chapter, he rejected the gospel message.

This morning as we ponder this passage we can gather the following application; it is, our beliefs about who God is and what He has done and said in His word affect our behavior.

You and I like Agrippa will be confronted with issues and questions in our life. Some times there about essential doctrines like in Agrippa's case; but more than likely there about God's power in our personal life.

We're faced with questions like can God heal my marriage, can God give me victory over my flesh or this addiction, can God use me? Just insert your question.

When we're face with these questions we like Paul need to remember who God is and what God has done and said in His word God. When we do well be able to say victoriously, why is it incredible or impossible for God to heal my marriage, or to give me victory over this, or to use me? God can! I know He can, It's reasonable and it's biblical.