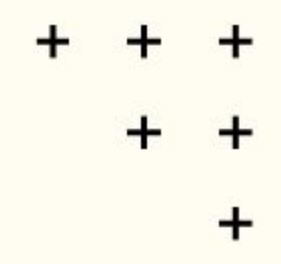




Acts.



**Almost believing is
still unbelieving.**



The next day Agrippa and Bernice came with great pomp and entered the audience room with the high-ranking military officers and the prominent men of the city. At the command of Festus, Paul was brought in.

ACTS 25:23 NIV



The Five Trials of the Apostle Paul

1 Before the Jewish Crowd
(Temple Riot)

ACTS 21:27-22:21

2 Before the Sanhedrin

ACTS 22:30-23:10

3 Before Governor Felix

ACTS 24:1-27

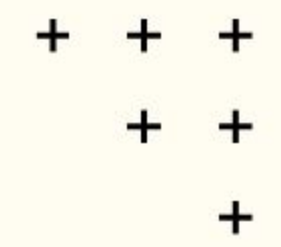
4 Before Governor Festus

ACTS 25:1-12

5 Before King Agrippa

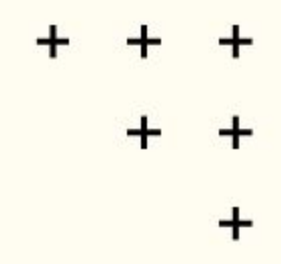
ACTS 25:13-26:32





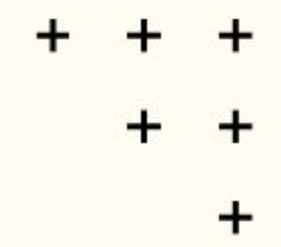
Festus said: “King Agrippa, and all who are present with us, you see this man! The whole Jewish community has petitioned me about him in Jerusalem and here in Caesarea, shouting that he ought not to live any longer.²⁵ I found he had done nothing deserving of death, but because he made his appeal to the Emperor I decided to send him to Rome.²⁶ But I have nothing definite to write to His Majesty about him. Therefore I have brought him before all of you, and especially before you, King Agrippa, so that as a result of this investigation I may have something to write.²⁷ For I think it is unreasonable to send a prisoner on to Rome without specifying the charges against him.”

ACTS 25:24-27 NIV



Then Agrippa said to Paul, “You have permission to speak for yourself.” So Paul motioned with his hand and began his defense: ² “King Agrippa, I consider myself fortunate to stand before you today as I make my defense against all the accusations of the Jews, ³ and especially so because you are well acquainted with all the Jewish customs and controversies. Therefore, I beg you to listen to me patiently.”

ACTS 26:1-3 NIV



“The Jewish people all know the way I have lived ever since I was a child, from the beginning of my life in my own country, and also in Jerusalem.
⁵ They have known me for a long time and can testify, if they are willing, that I conformed to the strictest sect of our religion, living as a Pharisee.
⁶ And now it is because of my hope in what God has promised our ancestors that I am on trial today. ⁷ This is the promise our twelve tribes are hoping to see fulfilled as they earnestly serve God day and night. King Agrippa, it is because of this hope that these Jews are accusing me.
⁸ Why should any of you consider it incredible that God raises the dead?”

ACTS 26:4-8 NIV

Paul's Conversion Story

ACTS 9:1-19

- + His Life Before Christ
- + His Conversion
- + His Calling

ACTS 22:1-16

- + His Life Before Christ
- + His Conversion
- + His Calling

ACTS 26:9-18

- + His Life Before Christ
- + His Conversion
- + His Calling



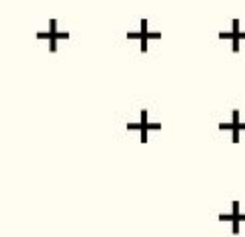
His Life Before Christ

His Conversion

His Calling

“I too was convinced that I ought to do all that was possible to oppose the name of Jesus of Nazareth. ¹⁰ And that is just what I did in Jerusalem. On the authority of the chief priests I put many of the Lord’s people in prison, and when they were put to death, I cast my vote against them. ¹¹ Many a time I went from one synagogue to another to have them punished, and I tried to force them to blaspheme. I was so obsessed with persecuting them that I even hunted them down in foreign cities.”

ACTS 26:9-11 NIV





His Life Before Christ

His Conversion

His Calling

“On one of these journeys I was going to Damascus with the authority and commission of the chief priests. ¹³ About noon, King Agrippa, as I was on the road, I saw a light from heaven, brighter than the sun, blazing around me and my companions. ¹⁴ We all fell to the ground, and I heard a voice saying to me in Aramaic, ‘Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me? It is hard for you to kick against the goads.’ ¹⁵ Then I asked, ‘Who are you, Lord?’ ‘I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting,’ the Lord replied.”

ACTS 26:12-15 NIV





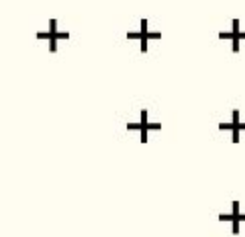
His Life Before Christ

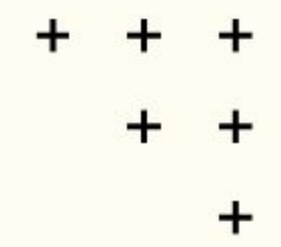
His Conversion

His Calling

“Now get up and stand on your feet. I have appeared to you to appoint you as a servant and as a witness of what you have seen and will see of me. ¹⁷ I will rescue you from your own people and from the Gentiles. I am sending you to them ¹⁸ to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.”

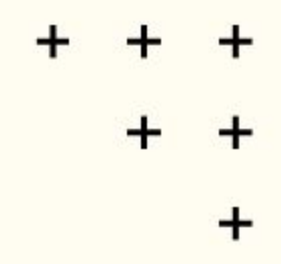
ACTS 26:16-18 NIV





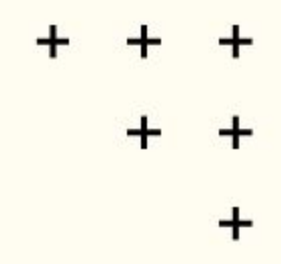
“So then, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the vision from heaven.
²⁰ First to those in Damascus, then to those in Jerusalem and in all Judea,
and then to the Gentiles, I preached that they should repent and turn to
God and demonstrate their repentance by their deeds. ²¹ That is why some
Jews seized me in the temple courts and tried to kill me.”

ACTS 26:19-21 NIV



“But God has helped me to this very day; so I stand here and testify to small and great alike. I am saying nothing beyond what the prophets and Moses said would happen—²³ that the Messiah would suffer and, as the first to rise from the dead, would bring the message of light to his own people and to the Gentiles.” ²⁴ At this point Festus interrupted Paul’s defense. “You are out of your mind, Paul!” he shouted. “Your great learning is driving you insane.”

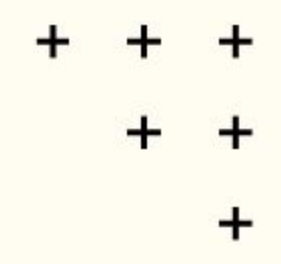
ACTS 26:22-24 NIV



“But God has helped me to this very day; so I stand here and testify to small and great alike. I am saying nothing beyond what the prophets and Moses said would happen—²³ that the Messiah would suffer and, as the first to rise from the dead, would bring the message of light to his own people and to the Gentiles.” ²⁴ At this point Festus interrupted Paul’s defense. “You are **out of your mind,** Paul!” he shouted. “Your great learning is driving you insane.”

ACTS 26:22-24 NIV

“If you have much the Spirit of God, it is not unlikely you will be thought deranged by many.”
CHARLES FINNEY

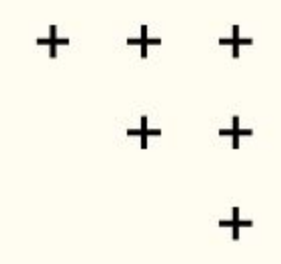


“But God has helped me to this very day; so I stand here and testify to small and great alike. I am saying nothing beyond what the prophets and Moses said would happen—²³ that the Messiah would suffer and, as the first to rise from the dead, would bring the message of light to his own people and to the Gentiles.” ²⁴ At this point Festus interrupted Paul’s defense. “You are **out of your mind,** Paul!” he shouted. “Your great learning is driving you insane.”

ACTS 26:22-24 NIV

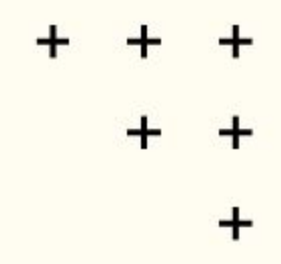
For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

1 CORINTHIANS 1:18 NIV



“I am not insane, most excellent Festus,” Paul replied. “What I am saying is true and reasonable.²⁶ The king is familiar with these things, and I can speak freely to him. I am convinced that none of this has escaped his notice, because it was not done in a corner.²⁷ King Agrippa, do you believe the prophets? I know you do.”

ACTS 26:25-27 NIV



Then Agrippa said to Paul, “Do you think that in such a short time you can persuade me to be a Christian?” ²⁹ Paul replied, “Short time or long—I pray to God that not only you but all who are listening to me today may become what I am, except for these chains.”

ACTS 26:28-29 NIV

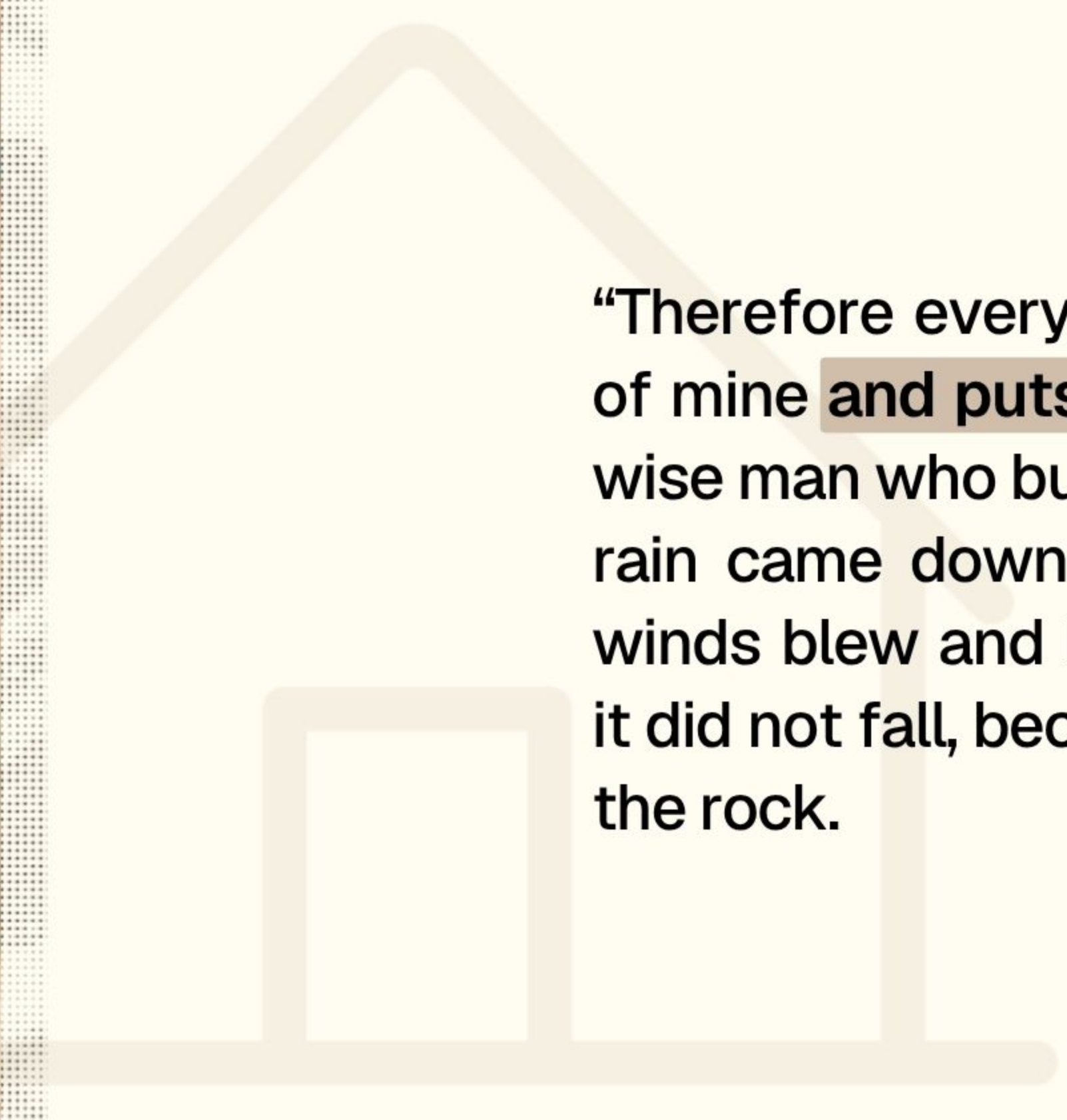

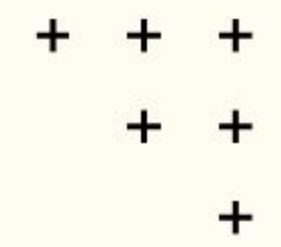


The king rose, and with him the governor and Bernice and those sitting with them. ³¹ After they left the room, they began saying to one another, “This man is not doing anything that deserves death or imprisonment.” ³² Agrippa said to Festus, “This man could have been set free if he had not appealed to Caesar.”

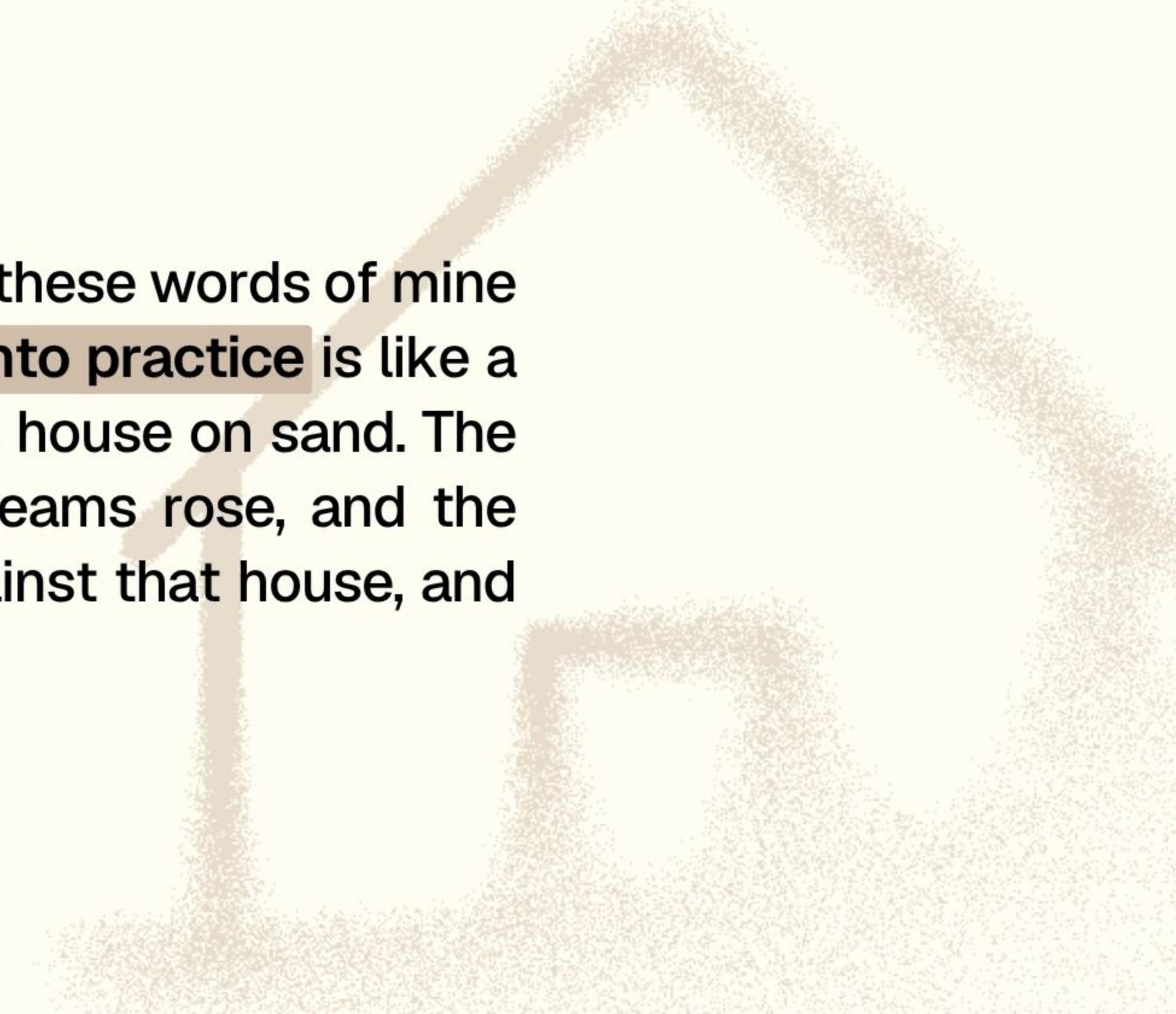
ACTS 26:30-32 NIV



**Almost believing is
still unbelieving.**

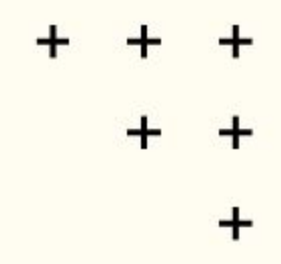


“Therefore everyone who **hears** these words of mine **and puts them into practice** is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock.



But everyone who **hears** these words of mine **and does not put them into practice** is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash.”

MATTHEW 7:24-27 NIV



THEREFORE EVERYONE WHO

hears these words of mine
and puts them into practice

IS LIKE A WISE MAN
WHO BUILT HIS HOUSE ON THE ROCK

THE RAIN CAME DOWN, THE STREAMS ROSE,
AND THE WINDS BLEW AND BEAT AGAINST THAT HOUSE;

yet it did not fall, because it
had its foundation on the rock.

BUT EVERYONE WHO

hears these words of mine
and does not put them into practice

IS LIKE A FOOLISH MAN
WHO BUILT HIS HOUSE ON SAND

THE RAIN CAME DOWN, THE STREAMS ROSE,
AND THE WINDS BLEW AND BEAT AGAINST THAT HOUSE;

and it fell with a great crash.