

~GAMALIEL 2 (64)

(Ga-ma'li-el) [possibly, Reward or Due Treatment of God]

- A member of the Sanhedrin, a Pharisee, and a Law teacher, at whose feet the apostle Paul had been instructed according to the strictness of the ancestral Law.
- But a certain man rose in the Sanhedrin, a Pharisee named **Gamaliel**, a Law teacher esteemed by all the people, and gave the command to put the men outside for a little while. (**Acts of Apostles 5:34**)
- I am a Jew, born in Tarsus of Cilicia, but educated in this city at the feet of **Gamaliel**, instructed according to the strictness of the ancestral Law, being zealous for God just as all of you are this day. (**Acts of Apostles 22:3**)
- **Gamaliel** is generally regarded as identical with **Gamaliel** the Elder. **Gamaliel** the Elder was greatly esteemed, being the first one to have the title of Rabban bestowed upon him.
- This honorary title was even higher than that of Rabbi. Concerning him the Mishnah [**Sotah 9:15**] says; **When Rabban Gamaliel the Elder died, the glory of the Law ceased and purity and abstinence died.** [**Translated by H. Danby**]
- **Gamaliel** evidently was broad-minded and not fanatical in his views, as is reflected by the counsel he gave on the occasion that Peter and the other apostles were brought before the Sanhedrin.
- By citing examples from the past, **Gamaliel** illustrated the wisdom of not interfering with the work of the apostles and then added;
- But a certain man rose in the Sanhedrin, a Pharisee named **Gamaliel**, a Law teacher esteemed by all the people, and gave the command to put the men outside for a little while. (**Acts of Apostles 5:34**)
- And he said to them; Men of Israel, pay attention to yourselves as to what you intend to do respecting these men. (**Acts of Apostles 5:35**)

- **For instance, before these days Theudas rose, saying he himself was somebody, and a number of men, about four hundred, joined his party. But he was done away with, and all those who were obeying him were dispersed and came to nothing. (Acts of Apostles 5:36)**
- **After him Judas the Galilean rose in the days of the registration, and he drew off people after him. And yet that man perished, and all those who were obeying him were scattered abroad. (Acts of Apostles 5:37)**
- **And so, under the present circumstances, I say to you, Do not meddle with these men, but let them alone. Because, if this scheme or this work is from men, it will be overthrown. (Acts of Apostles 5:38)**
- **But if it is from God, you will not be able to overthrow them, otherwise, you may perhaps be found fighters actually against God. (Acts of Apostles 5:39)**