

SCCC – ASSUMPTION CAN BE DANGEROUS

S – Scriptures

“Aren’t you the Egyptian who started a revolt and led four thousand terrorists out into the wilderness some time ago?” Acts 21: 38

C – Consideration

This presupposition was done by a Roman officer about Paul. The apostle was beaten because some Jews from the province of Asia saw him at the temple. They stirred up the whole crowd and seized him, shouting, and falsely accusing him of anti-Semitism, deceiver and blasphemer. While they were trying to kill him, the commander came up and arrested him and ordered him to be bound. Then, he asked who he was and what he had done. However, before Paul could defend himself, the Officer made the above statement.

C – Commitment

As I read this chapter in the book of Acts, I thought of how fallen man can easily fall into deception by their own judgment. After all the false accusations of the Jews, the Commander made up his mind by a completely wrong description of the victim. Paul was not Egyptian nor a fugitive terrorist leader. What did it take for this man to come to such a conclusion? Perhaps, by what he saw and heard. Paul corrected the Roman and answered his question “I am a Jew, from Tarsus in Cilicia, a citizen of no ordinary city. This incident almost cost Paul’s life. Subsequently, he became a prisoner until his execution by Nero, years later. The story has two sides that I have to consider. I can be a victim of defamation and injustice, or I can be guilty of judging others by their appearance, their nationality, or status. In both ways, I must be ready to forgive and ready to repent.

C – Call

My God, how many times I had judged others, by their appearance. Looking back, your word brought to my mind how pride could be so deceptive in me. How many times I was bitter and angry when someone didn’t respect me, or oftentimes, I dishonored others thinking myself above them. Lord, search me and help me to learn true humility and to put into action the words of Jesus, “Do to others as you would have them do to you.” In His name, I pray. Amen.