

THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

III THE ACTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH Acts 13-28

LESSON 24 - Paul Shipwrecked - Acts 27

KEY VERSE

For there stood by me this night an angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I serve, saying, 'Do not be afraid, Paul; you must be brought before Caesar; and indeed God has granted you all those who sail with you' (Acts 27:23, 24).

PONDER¹

READ Acts Chapters 27.

WRITE the *word, phrase, or verse* that spoke to you the most. Explain. _____

PAUL SENT TO ITALY

Luke, the writer of Acts and travel companion of Paul, left the Apostle in the hands of James and the elders of the Jerusalem church (Acts 21:18). Paul was arrested in Jerusalem and detained in Caesarea for two years. The beloved physician always stood by him (Colossians 4:14). Being a Roman citizen, Paul appealed to Caesar, so King Agrippa sent him on a sea voyage to Italy. When Paul was shipped off to Rome, Luke joined him for the voyage.

READ Acts 27:1-8.

1. Who did they send with Paul (v. 1)? _____ 2 3

Who did they deliver Paul and the prisoners to? _____ 4

2. They were put on a ship of Adramyttium⁵. Who joined Paul, Luke and the prisoners (v. 2)? _____

6

¹ PONDER: think about and consider carefully God's spiritual truths as revealed in the Word of God.

² we: Luke accompanied Paul on this journey.

³ other prisoners: may have also appealed to Caesar or been under sentence of death on their way to Rome to combat in the arena.

⁴ Julius: an army officer, a very fine figure; an imperial courier of the "Augustus band" which was responsible for communications between Caesar and his armies in the Roman provinces.

⁵ Adramyttium: a seaport of Mysia on the eastern shore of the Aegean Sea.

⁶ Aristarchus, a Macedonian of Thessalonica: one of the men that accompanied Paul to Jerusalem with a money gift from the Gentile churches.

3. When they landed at Sidon⁷, what did Julius do (v. 3)? _____

4. Why were they put under the shelter of Cyprus⁸ (v. 4)? _____

5. After sailing over the sea of Cilicia and Pamphylia, they docked in Myra⁹. What did the centurion do with Paul, Luke, Aristarchus and the prisoners (vv. 5, 6)?

10

6. DESCRIBE the harshness of the journey of Paul and his companions as they made their way to Fair Havens¹¹ on the island of Crete (vv. 7, 8).

12

LOOK DEEPER

A “Fair Haven” is a place of peace and safety, a place to find shelter from the storm. How will these Scriptures help you when the next unexpected storm assaults you?

Deuteronomy 33:27a _____

Psalms 46:1 _____

Psalms 57:1 _____

Psalms 62:8 _____

PAUL’S WARNING IGNORED

READ Acts 27:9-38.

1. Why was Paul concerned about continuing the journey? What was his warning (vv. 9, 10)? _____

⁷ Sidon: sixty geographical miles up the coast from Caesarea.

⁸ shelter of Cyprus: area north of the island of Cyprus and the mainland where there is a break for the force of the winter storms.

⁹ Myra: the most southerly part of Asia.

¹⁰ Alexandria: Egyptian city of Alexandria.

¹¹ Fair Havens: small town on the south of the island giving shelter from the winds.

¹² Cnidus: 130 miles from Myra, one day journey on a day of favorable winds.

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2. Julius, the centurion, did not heed Paul's warning. Who did he listen to? What was their advice (vv. 11, 12)?

13

3. In the tempest the crew set sail with a calm sea and south blowing breeze. What did they encounter soon after (vv. 13, 14)?

14

4. DESCRIBE the fierceness of the tempest and the crew's desperate actions to save the ship (vv. 15-19).

15

5. Why was all hope given up that the ship and crew would be saved (v. 20)?

16

6. After seeking the mind of God, what did God reveal to Paul that he shared with the crew (vv. 21-26)?

17

¹³ Phoenix: major port on the westside of Crete; sixty miles from Fair Havens.

¹⁴ Euroclydon: north easterly storms, a typhoon.

¹⁵ Clauda: a small island to the south of Crete.

¹⁶ Syrtis Sands: sand bars off the northern coast of Africa.

¹⁷ Caesar: Emperor of Rome; the wicked Nero whose vileness would soon fill the world with horror. He burned Rome in 64 A. D. He committed suicide in 68 A.D., the same year he martyred Paul.

7. What happened on the fourteenth night (vv. 27, 28)? _____

18

What did the sailors do? _____

8. What were the sailors trying to do (vv. 29-32)? _____

19

What warning did Paul give to the centurion and soldiers? _____

9. After not eating for fourteen days, why did Paul exhort them to eat (vv. 33-36)? _____

What did Paul do? _____

How were their spirits lifted? _____

10. How many were on the ship (v. 37)? _____

11. How did they lighten the ship (v. 38)? _____

SHIPWRECKED ON MALTA

READ Acts 27:39-44.

1. DESCRIBE the storms damage to the ship (vv. 39-41). _____

¹⁸ Adriatic Sea: a narrow stretch between Italy and Macedonia.

¹⁹ skiff: a small boat.

2. The centurion prevented the soldiers from killing the prisoners²⁰ in order to save Paul's life. What did he command instead (vv. 42-44)?

WRITE out the KEY VERSE. _____

*And they continued steadfastly
in the Apostles Doctrine and fellowship,
in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.
Acts 2:42*

²⁰ killing the prisoners: Roman military law required that the soldiers on guard be punished if a prisoner escaped.

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