

## **Acts 27 Lessons from a Shipwreck**

(Overhead slides will be in Bold Print with \*)

Introduction and opening prayer.

**\*Show Map-Paul to Rome** (Leave up during reading of scripture and until next slide)

Read Acts 27:1-26 (Comment on Map)

Overview of voyage-

“WE”-joined by Luke, and Aristarchus-travel companion-seized during riot at Ephesus (Acts 19:29), joined Paul to Jerusalem with offering (20:4), with Paul during first Roman Imprisonment (Col. 4:10)

Contrary Wind- NW winds, shelter/lee side of Cyprus

Change of ship-Myra, imperial grain ship, larger ship, bound for Italy

Fast-Day of Atonement-late Sept/early Oct.- Seas dangerous until Feb.

Change in route, lee of Crete, to Fair Havens

Advised to stay put by Paul, Julius ranking official, persuaded by pilot and owner

South wind, try for Phoenix, better harbor for winter

“Euroquilo”-North East wind, hurricane force, “gave way”

Cauda-last opportunity to secure ship, cables, boat, cargo, sea anchor(Alaska)

14 days-Syrtis concern, Paul’s Witness, shipwreck, Malta, no loss of life.

Lessons from Shipwreck

1. Bible often charged to be a work of ancient mythology, Greek gods and goddesses, Homer’s Iliad. Bible validating itself, history, real people, real places, real actions, enjoyed taking this cruise, looking at modern day charts, wind patterns. Malta Map-St. Paul’s Bay

**\*Show Acts 27 Malta Map**

2. Verse 3-Julius Treatment of Paul allowed him great favor, liberty. Biblical examples: Joseph with Potiphar, jailer, Pharaoh. Nehemiah with King Artaxerxes. Daniel-King Darius

**\*“You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies” Ps. 23:5**

**“When a man’s ways are pleasing to the LORD, He makes even his enemies to be at peace with him.” Prov. 16:7** (Both scriptures on same slide)

Not always the case, Bible teaches both, Paul's journeys, Paul's thorn in the flesh, Martyrs

**\*" These things I have spoken to you, so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation, but take courage, "I have overcome the world." (Both scriptures on same slide)**

**"The LORD gave, and the LORD has taken away, blessed be the name of the LORD." Job 1:21**

(Please note if I feel we are short on time, I may eliminate this #2 section and its slides)

3. Verses 10,11- Godly advice ignored. Paul experience with sea and previous shipwrecks. How do we take Godly advice? Do we seek Godly advice?

**\*"With Him are wisdom and might; To Him belong counsel and understanding." Job 12:13**

**"Do you hear the secret counsel of God, and limit wisdom to yourself." Job 15:8**

**"The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but a wise man is he who listens to counsel" Proverbs 12:15 (All three scriptures on same slide if possible)**

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### **\*Show Acts 27 Cruise Ship Wreck**

Do we try and counsel when we see others about to make wrong decision," faithful are wounds of a friend", how do we react when it is us that is about to go wrong way?

**\*"It is a sign of conceit and immaturity to dispense with taking advice in major decisions. There are always people who know the Bible, human nature, and our own gifts and limitations, better than we do, and even if we cannot finally accept their advice nothing but good will come to us from carefully weighing what they say." Packer from Knowing God**

4. Sovereignty and providence of God, God's purposes stand, 14 day driven by storm, wind and waves, blessed controller.

**\*"But on the night immediately following, the Lord stood at his side and said, "Take courage, for as you have solemnly witnessed to My cause at Jerusalem, so you must witness at Rome also." Acts 23:11**

**"Do not be afraid, Paul, you must stand before Caesar; and behold, God has granted all those who are sailing with you." Acts 27:24 (Both scriptures on same slide)**

5. Futility of Man's Plan and Effort-When man has exhausted all his efforts, he can become open to God's instruction.
6. Paul – Encouragement-we will make it.

Faith- "I believe God"- Confidence in God, same courage as before Agrippa, life threatening

Instruction-listened to, reception and followed, confidence in God's end result

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**\*“Therefore, keep up your courage, men, for I believe God that it will turn out exactly as I have been told.” Acts 27: 25**

**“And so, it happened that they all were brought safely to land.” Acts 27:44b** (Both scriptures on same slide)

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Closing- Do we believe God? Do we take Him at His Word? What does our belief look like? (Even in the storms of life) At a time when the World is heading for the “shipwreck” of end times, are we standing up saying we believe God, encouraging those who are weak, proclaiming to those who are lost “how it will turn out exactly as we have been told. Pastor's Easter Challenge-Piper-Resurrection challenge; Do our lives reflect belief in Resurrection. (END IN PRAYER)

BENEDICTION-God has spoken to us in His Word, it will turn out exactly as we have been told, close with His Instruction

**\*“ But sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence.” I Peter 3:15**

**” Therefore, prepare your minds for action, keep sober in spirit, fix your hope completely on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.” I Peter 1:13**