



Preface

The Acts 27 Storm – A Type and Shadow of the “Last Days” - “A Word in Season” to the Living Church. See Pastors’ Page [“Acts 27 Storm.”](#) According to the Apostle Paul in (Eph 6:13) and typified in the Acts 27 Storm, the Living Church will enter the “evil day.” The “evil day” is the time period in which the Day of the Lord under God’s number of 777 is breaking in the heavens and will meet with great controversy, as the god of this world seeks to counter with a counterfeit system under man’s number of 666. The Living Church, as we speak is being engulfed in a great storm described prophetically through types and shadows of the Acts 27 Storm.

Where does this storm come from? - The “troublesome times” besetting our nation has a spiritual origin. This is being played out in the present political controversy between the Left and the Right. The Day of the Lord, we believe, is now breaking in the heavens with the Lord entering His presence (parousia) in the heavens to receive His Church. See Special Study [“Millennial Day Principle.”](#) He will yet be enthroned according to Rev 4 and 5 and will establish His heavenly kingdom by receiving His Church. First those in Christ who are asleep and afterward those alive unto His coming. See Special Study [“Order of the Resurrection.”](#)

Great Opposition! - The presence of Christ in the heavens is stirring fierce opposition from the god of this world whose kingdom is also located in “high places.” Satan is feeling threatened by the Lord’s presence and the eventual setting up of His kingdom in these high and heavenly places. This is a “harbinger” of things to come as Satan’s dark kingdom of wicked principalities, powers and rulers will be cast to the earth and there will be an eventual cleansing of the heavens – (Rev 12).

Satan Becoming “Desperately Wicked” - Hence, the present storm, now raging between the secular forces on the Left is threatening the organized forces on the Right, under the Judean Christian principles, figured by the ship, in the midst of this storm. A prophetic word in season, from Acts 27; Nevertheless, the Lord will stand down to deliver the Apostle Paul, as a prisoner, and those who sail with him, figuring the Living Church as those looking up for their redemption.

The Judean Christian Establishment Survives! - The good news, from the “types and shadows” in the Acts 27 storm, is that the Judean Christian establishment will survive! They will emerge from this storm greatly strengthened as unified through religious “ecumenism.” Sadly, the captains, as leaders, of the ship, will fail to recognize they were delivered by the Lord, Himself on behalf of those looking up for their redemption! Instead, they will lend their allegiance to religious leaders who urged “ecumenism.”

The Storm will Continue - However, there will yet be a “social backlash” by the liberal forces against organized religious control forcing Christendom, as a whole, to begin entering into a union with the political and commercial systems. Nevertheless, doctrinal differences will cause a serious “fracture” in the ship of Christendom. This will result in a division between the Visible Church, i.e., organized Christendom figured, as the forepart of the ship, and the Invisible Church, i.e., the living organism of the Body of Christ figured, as the hinder part of the ship. There are born again Christians in the organized system and depending on the forepart of the ship. As a result, the ship figuring Christendom will break into two parts from the “violence of the waves.”

The Forepart of the Ship - The forepart of the ship will remain as un-moveable, figuring the Visible Church as joined to the political and commercial systems becoming the accepted religious system. This union will consist of the Roman Catholic Church, Mainline Churches and others who hold to Covenant Theology or “Replacement Theology.” They will contend the Visible Church has spiritually replaced Israel in the divine purposes of God.

The Hinder Part of the Ship - The hinder part of the ship, figuring those of the “Invisible Church” looking up for their redemption, will gradually turn spiritually northward in seeking to lay hold of the heavenly call of the Church, as the “faith once delivered” to the Church. They will begin to look up for their redemption, by rank and order, being strengthened by the Holy Spirit and will contend for the “catching away” through the open door of translation, as the “blessed hope.”

Great Persecution! - The coming division of the ship of Christendom between the Visible Church and the Invisible Church will result in persecution of believers who continue to look up for their redemption. These believers will be accused of holding “unsound doctrines” and “unsound minds” by the Visible Church. Believers who continue to look up for the heavenly calling will desperately need the “Helmet of Salvation” in protecting their minds and defending their faith until they are caught up to meet the Lord in the air by rank and order – (I Thess 4:15-18).

Beware of this Counterfeit Kingdom - This is a warning to those remaining! The above union will seek to set up the Kingdom of God on earth. This will be a counterfeit kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ under “another Jesus, another spirit, and another gospel.” This kingdom will be established in the place of Israel’s promised Messianic Kingdom upon the earth. This will usher in “great tribulation” to the Gentile nations and “Jacob’s trouble” to Israel. Christ will return and be received by a remnant in Israel, as their Messiah. After that the Lord, Himself, will fight for His ancient people Israel in the great Battle of Armageddon. After great carnage, He will deliver the remnant and set up the true Messianic Kingdom under Israel. (Ps 110:6) “He shall judge among the heathen, he shall fill the places with the dead bodies; he shall wound the heads over many countries.” Even so come, Lord Jesus!

Introduction

Acts 27 and 28 are deeply saturated with understanding and revelation. They show that Paul's historic voyage from Jerusalem, "city of peace," to Rome, "city of strength," depicts the voyage of the Church through the church age and its consummation. Paul, the Apostle to the Church, set forth the message of grace and glory which embodies the heavenly calling of the Church in contrast with the earthly calling of Israel. In "his gospel" Paul admonishes the church against leaving its invisible heavenly position, along with its provisions bought by grace, for a visible tower and a portion of the earth. Paul's message of grace, which brings peace, was accepted at the beginning of the Church's voyage (Acts 15), but as we are now seeing in these last days, the Church is arriving at Rome depending on their own strength and works. Through ecumenism the ecclesiastical Church ship is about to experience a shipwreck. The two seas the ecclesiastical ship meets represents the many Protestants Church systems joining with the Roman Catholic Church system in political and religious unity in the days just before us. The winds are starting to blow upon the Church. They are the winds of the Holy Spirit blowing sovereignly and the winds of Satanic forces both at the same time.

(1 Peter 4:17-18) "For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God? And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear?"

The Church's visible organization and its many headships have been and will be shaken to their foundations. We must get our faith fixed in a Person. The Holy Spirit is saying, "fix your faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and don't look to the right or left, or we too will shipwreck in the days right ahead of us." Let us keep our eyes on Jesus through Paul's gospel and not on man and his organizations. These organizations are going to end in shipwreck.

A word of caution is in order, The Bible is full of types which the Holy Spirit uses as a method of revealing deep truths to the believer. It must be remembered that "types" are a "shadow" and "not the very image of things." The meanings of names in their focused use within a portion of scripture along with Holy Spirit guidance can give us great understanding. Their relationship with time and the meanings of other names and portions of scripture must be considered with caution. Our prayer is that the gaining of understanding of the past journey of the Church will give to us an appreciation and insight into what is in store for the Church in the immediate future.

The Church as a Ship

*(Acts 27:1) "And when it was determined that we should sail into Italy, they delivered Paul and certain other prisoners unto one **named Julius**, a centurion of Augustus' band."*

*(Acts 27:2) And entering into **a ship of Adramyttium**, we launched, meaning to sail by the coasts of Asia; one Aristarchus, a Macedonian of Thessalonica, being with us.*

Julius means "downy bearded" or "soft haired." We will find his heart is soft as he trusts and gives the Apostle Paul liberty while in his custody. Julius is mentioned two times and referred to as "the centurion" an additional five times. The number seven often refers to the Church. We will last hear of "the centurion" in Acts 28:16 as he will deliver Paul safely to Rome. This eighth and final time Julius is mentioned confirms the meaning of the number eight which is "completion." Julius completed his assignment which also fulfilled God's promise that the Apostle through the storm would make it to Rome.

“A ship of Adramyttium” (a-dra-mit’ti-um) meaning “mansion of death. This ship speaks of an ecclesiastical organization (the visible church) and it would be a “mansion of death” if run by the “old creation.” The true church counts the “Old Creation” as dead.



An Overcoming Company of Saints on Board

(Acts 27:2) *And entering into a ship of Adramyttium, we launched, meaning to sail by the coasts of Asia; **one Aristarchus**, a Macedonian of Thessalonica, being **with us**.*

It is not without significance the “**Aristarchus**” (a-ris-tar-kus) is mentioned here. His name means “**the best ruler.**” He was a faithful companion of Paul and represents the “full-overcoming Bridal Company.” Acts 27 was recorded by Luke as a firsthand witness being Paul’s traveling companion. He uses the word “**with us**” in verse 2 confirming his presence currently in history.

Apostle Paul

Chief Apostle to the Church, Chosen and Ordained by God for the dispensation of the Church Age. See Special Study [“Epistles of Paul.”](#)

Aristarchus

He is from “Thessalonica” which means victory at sea.” The Bride is a “victorious” company out of the “sea” of the Gentiles. The Pauline Gospel and the Bridal Company, full of knowledge and of the Holy Ghost, should “rule” the Church and should be up on deck guiding the ship. Aristarchus has traveled with Paul since Ephesus (Acts 19). He was one of the men faithful to Paul that he was pulled into the Theatre by the angry mob of Diana worshipers and idol makers. (Acts 19:29) *And the whole city was filled with confusion: and having caught Gaius and **Aristarchus**, men of Macedonia, Paul’s companions in travel, they rushed with one accord into the theatre.*

Aristarchus devotion for Lord and Paul would give him the ability to continue on with Paul through two years of imprisonment at Rome.

Luke

Luke means “light-giving, luminous a light, or white.” In Colossians 4:14 Paul lets us know Luke was a physician. He would be given the incredible responsibility to record Christ and Paul’s like in the Gospel of Luke and Acts. Paul notes Luke’s faithfulness in 2 Tim 4:11, “Only Luke is with me.”

Aristarchus and Luke by their own free will chose to accompany Paul to Rome. Luke and Aristarchus were faithful followers will not only walk with Paul but also suffer with him and his doctrine. Ephesus was the starting point for Aristarchus and the place where all the doctrines for the Church was delivered.

The Church Began Its Journey Under the Control of the Holy Spirit

*(Acts 27:3) And the next day we touched at Sidon. **And Julius courteously entreated Paul, and gave him liberty** to go unto his friends to refresh himself.*

First, we find that the Church investigates their purpose for existence. They visit a fishery. Sidon (si'dom) means a "fishery." Jesus said to his disciples: *"And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men. And they straightway left their nets, and followed him."*

The Church began under the control of the Holy Spirit. "Julius": the centurion, meaning "soft hair or feathers" implying a comforter. "And Julius courteously entreated Paul, and gave him liberty." The Holy Spirit gives comfort and liberty.



Contrary Winds

*(Acts 27:4) And when we had launched from thence, we sailed under **Cyprus**, because the winds were contrary.*

They sailed the calmest route around Cyprus to the north which was the downwind side of the island. Cyprus is mentioned in scripture eight times and only in the Book of Acts. This verse is the last time it is referenced.

Immediately, the winds are contrary to the ship, or the Church. "**Winds**" that are contrary speak of Satanic forces and Winds of False Doctrines". They are "spiritual wickedness in the heavenlies" – Eph 6:12

Eph 4:14 "That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;"
"the winds were **contrary**"

Contrary: (G)1727. enantios (over) against, contrary.

See Special Study ["Three Evil Doctrines."](#)

“we sailed **under Cyprus**”

Under: (G)5284. hupopleo to sail under the lee of: --sail under. (Means to sail on the side that protects from the winds.)

Nelson’s Quick Reference: “The name Cyprus does not appear in the Old Testament, many scholars believe Elishah and Kittim refer to Cyprus.”

Elishah: means “God is salvation. The church’s eternal life is in God thru the Lord Jesus Christ.

Kittim: Means “knotty”— “to tie or unite closely or intricately; “to tie the knot,” get married.

The church is to be married to none other than the Lord Jesus Christ. The church is to have one head, the Lord Jesus Christ, no man, no church organization should usurp that place.

The Church and His Stewardship

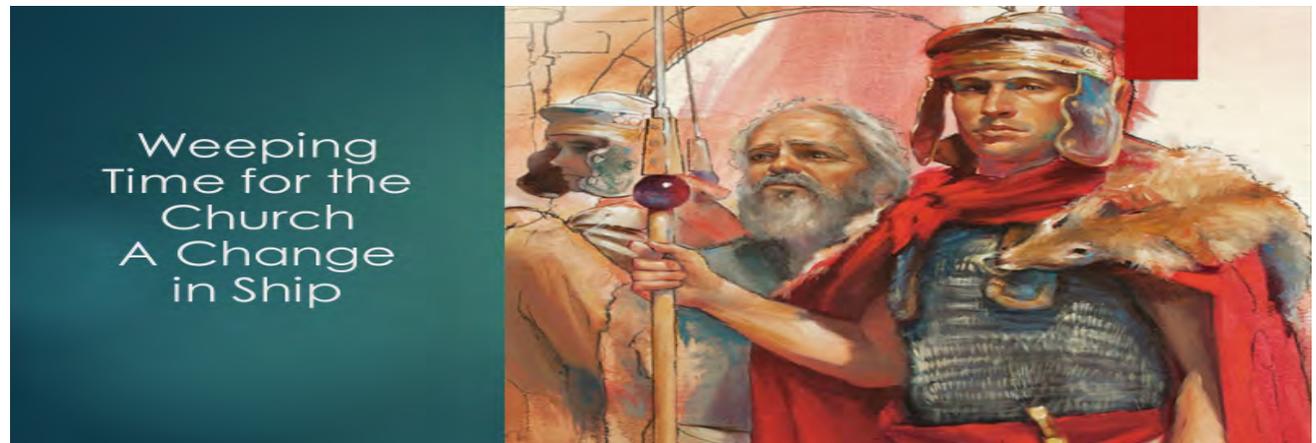
*Acts 27:5) And when we had sailed over **the sea of Cilicia and Pamphylia**, we came to **Myra**, a city of **Lycia**.*

Cilicia (si-lish’i-a) Nelson’s Quick Reference: “A district of southeast Asia Minor. Paul was born in Tarsus, the principal city of this district – Acts 21:39.

Pamphylia (pam-fil’i-a) Nelson’s Quick Reference: “a nation made up of every tribe.”

The Church started with Paul as its Chief Apostle and recognized his calling to every nation and tribe of the Gentiles. Pamphylia emphasize the diverse cross section of full overcoming believers who will be in that Bridal company.

Pamphylia is mentioned five times in Scripture. In ACTS 2:10 there were those of Pamphylia in Jerusalem on the day of Pentecost, who heard the disciples speak in their native tongue under the inspiration of the Holy Ghost. Paul had passed through Pamphylia twice on his missionary journey with Barnabas. John Mark departed from Paul and Barnabas at Pamphylia. As Paul and Barnabas traveled inland through Pamphylia the journey got rough, and this is where Paul faced some of the eight-fold perils found listed in 2 CORINTHIANS 11:26. Perga is a city of Pamphylia where Paul preached in ACTS 14:25.



Weeping Time for the Church - A Change in Ship

*(Acts 27:5) And when we had sailed over the sea of Cilicia and Pamphylia, we came to **Myra**, a city of **Lycia**. (Acts 27:6) And there the centurion found a ship of **Alexandria** sailing into Italy; and he put us therein. (Acts 27:7) And when we had sailed slowly many days, and scarce were come over against Cnidus, the wind not suffering us, we sailed under Crete, over against Salmone;*

We see that the centurion, who represents control of the church, takes on a change- (in type). The advice taken now is “intellectualism” and not by “Holy Ghost Revelation.” The centurion that started out meaning “comforter” or under the guidance of the Holy Spirit now listens to the “master and the owner of the ship” more than Paul. He begins to depend on intellectualism and man’s wisdom from Alexandria. Pentecost was now considered only for the “early church.” It’s like starting off “Pentecostal” and becoming “Non-Pentecostal.” It’s like speaking in tongues signified the infilling of the Holy Spirit, but it is not necessary now. Intellectualism now rules the ecclesiastical organization. They won’t listen to Paul’s message anymore. When this happens, it’s weeping time.

Myra means to “to weep.” Myra has several meanings: “myrrh: myrtle juice,” “I flow; pour out; weep.” Myrrh, you may recall in scripture, is associated with sorrow and suffering. The Smyrna Church in Rev chapter 2 also derived its name from myrrh, and the overcomers of the church of Smyrna figures all the full overcomers of this church age, and martyrs who gave their lives for the testimony of Christ. Myrrh is mentioned in connection with the purifications of women portrays a picture of the Bride of Christ. Myrrh was one of three gifts brought to the young child Jesus in Matt 2:11 pointing to His great humiliation and suffering of Cross.

Lycia means “wolfish.” Wolves moved into the Church. Wolves in sheep’s clothing. Paul warned of this.

(Acts 20:29) “For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock.”

Intellectualism now leads to a different ship. Guess where it’s from: **Alexandria**.

Alexandria means “defender of men” and its homeport is in Egypt. The church systems have left off from being a “defender of God.” It becomes full of programs pleasing men. Meeting men’s natural desires not spiritual. There are about six hundred references to Egypt in scripture. Egypt typically speaks of the world and bondage of sin.

What came out of Alexandria? It was a hotbed of Gnosticism. Gnosticism claimed to possess a higher knowledge than is contained in the Word of God. They adamantly sought to discredit the deity of Christ. They claimed He was a created human being, a superman and not God. Adulterated manuscripts were created to serve their purposes. The new Bible versions are governed by Greek manuscripts were created to serve their purposes. The new Bible versions are governed by Greek Manuscripts that came from Egypt. Virtually all modern Bibles published since the last 1800s are translated from Alexandrian texts (NIV, NASB, NRSV, The Living Bible, etc.). See Special Study [“Which Translation is God’s Word.”](#)

An early Egyptian Gnostic was Origen, (185-254 AD). He was from the Alexandrian School of Theology. Very intellectual and specialized in textual criticism. He was one of the leading proponents of Allegorism. The belief that the Bible should not be interpreted literally but only symbolically, the hidden meaning behind the literal context. Allegorism has given rise to amillennialism and postmillennialism, and the doctrine of replacement theology (Covenant theology, that is the Church replacing Israel. Reformed, Roman Catholic, Lutheran, etc.). The ship Alexandria is strong and afloat today. But, a shipwreck is now imminent.

Myra had a sea port called port Andriace, which did a large grain business, and we will see in verse 6 that Julius found a rather large sea going ship from Egypt that was heading to Rome, which his soldiers and prisoners were put on.

The Church Enters the Final Season of the Church Age



The Church Enters the Final Season of the Church Age

*(Acts 27:7) And when we had sailed slowly **many days**, and scarce were come over against **Cnidus**, the wind not suffering us, we sailed under Crete, over against Salmone;*

“Many days” – speaks of the greater portion of the Church Age up to the last season. **Cnidus** means “age.” The beginning of the end of the Church Age, the last “season.”

The third message to the Church came from the Holy Spirit at the beginning of the 1900's marking the end of the age. There was an outpouring of the Holy Spirit that spawned the Pentecostal movement. God's people began to speak in tongues and experience the gifts of the Holy Spirit. It is called the Azusa Street Revival. It spread from there around the world. Thousands of missionaries were called to carry this message of the gospel to far off places around the world. The message the Holy Spirit kept giving in meeting after meeting was: “Jesus is coming soon! The harvest is ripe! Go into all the world and preach this message.” This began over 100 years ago, and the message is beginning to fall on deaf ears. The Church is becoming apostate and losing its calling. It is what the Lord said it would be like at his coming “would He find faith.” It is now time for a new and final message to be brought forth by the Holy Spirit.

The final message that is now ready to break on the scene is “Behold He Cometh!” The word “cometh” in the Greek is “erchomai” meaning “He is coming.” It is in the present tense and at the same time in the imperfect tense. That means His coming is “happening now but not yet complete,” or simply, He is now on His way. To understand this message, it will be necessary to understand the “times and seasons.” Such questions such as “Has the fig tree put forth her leaves?” Is the “times of the Gentiles” fulfilled? “Is the Day of the Lord breaking? We are now in the third Redemptive Day according to Hosea 6:2. We are also in the 7th Millennial Day. Do all these questions cause us to awaken to His actual Return? According to Jude 14, Enoch, the seventh from Adam, speaking of the 7th Millennial Day, prophesied “Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints, To execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard *speeches* which ungodly sinners have spoken against him.” The Apostle John, banished to the Isle of Patmos for the testimony of Jesus, had visions and was caught in his spirit up to the Day of the Lord, this 7th Millennial Day since the creation and saw the Lord in the process of His coming. See Special Study [“Progressive Coming of the Lord”](#) and [“John Caught Up to the Day of the Lord.”](#) It is the time that we now live in! In Rev 17-10, Jesus spoke of the faithful and wise servant. “Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat in due season? Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing” (Matt 24:45, 46).

Cnidus means “nettle” or twisting together, from whence the word “net” comes from, because weeds of the nettle family of plants with stinging hairs on them were used to make nets.

The “**wind not suffering us**” was a north wind that came down from the mountains of Greece and Thrace. Thessalonica was located there. Paul wrote I & II Thessalonians which were letters to the Thessalonica Church. The letters spoke of the coming of the Lord to the Rev 4 Bridal Company in I Thess and the Rev 7 Blood Washed Multitude in 2 Thess. See Special Study “[Order of the Resurrection.](#)”

The wind speaks of the “latter rain” move of the Holy Spirit during the last season of the Church age. The Church did not want to sail under these conditions. So, they sailed in the lee of Crete for isolation from the Holy Ghost. See Special Study “[Rainfall Holy Spirit.](#)”

The Church Enters into Apostasy

*(Acts 27:7) And when we had sailed slowly many days, and scarce were come over against Cnidus, the wind not suffering us, we sailed under **Crete**, over against **Salmone**;*

*(Acts 27:8) And, hardly passing it, came unto a place which is called **The fair havens**; nigh whereunto was the city of **Lasea**.*

Paul’s first missionary trip with Barnabas through Crete is where the Holy Spirit first references the Apostle by Paul and not Saul. **Crete** was the place of “the liars, evil beast, and slow bellies (literally, idle gluttons).” A place of false doctrines. Crete means “fleshly,” or “carnal.” The Apostle Paul in his letter to Titus wrote this concerning the Cretians in Titus 1:12 “*One of themselves, even a prophet of their own, said, The Cretians are aiway liars, evil beasts, slow bellies. In the Old Testament we find Crete called Caphtor where dwelt Philistines.*” AMOS in part states: ...Have not I brought up Israel out of the land of Egypt? and the Philistines from Caphtot and the Syrians from Kir?

Salmone (sal-mo’ne) means “peaceful.” Located in Crete, that has to be a false peace. False doctrine produces a false peace. “Peace and Prosperity message.” Not all the church as accepted this compromised message. **Salmone**, found only this one time in scripture, which also means “from the surge,” meaning from the surge on the shore from the crashing waves. A place of surging waves points opposite to faith. James 1:6 “*But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed.*” Paul, who portrays faith in this Acts 27 storm wasn’t allowed to anchor here.

The Church Would Avoid Shipwreck if They Would Listen to Paul

The **fair havens** means “Good Harbors.” The Church would have found safety from the coming storm if they would have listened to Paul. **Lasea** means “wise.” Paul’s gospel makes one “wise” in spiritual matters. Paul discerned the course of the Church age and its final state.

Prophetic Understanding Restored to the Church



Prophetic Understanding Restored to the Church

*(Acts 27:9) Now when **much time was spent**, and when sailing was now **dangerous**, because the fast was now already past, Paul admonished them,*

First, we see that **much time was spent** in going nowhere. The winds were contrary and didn't allow progress. They sailed slowly, then went the wrong direction to find more favorable winds and had finally come to anchor in "The fair havens," a place of safety, but not a place with an easy access to land.

This word "**dangerous**" is only found this one time in scripture, and here means prone to fall upon seas that would be nigh impossible to navigate, because of winds, clouds, and winter like weather. Because the **fast was now already past** or fast of atonement, which occurs in the late September, early October. Navigation of the Mediterranean was esteemed to be particularly dangerous from storms that always seem to occur this time of year.

(Acts 27:10) And said unto them, Sirs, I perceive that this voyage will be with hurt and much damage, not only of the lading and ship, but also of our lives.

The Apostle Paul's obvious concern here was for the lives on board this ship, and more importantly he was concerned for their salvation. God appointed the Apostle Paul to be the housekeeper and master builder of the Church throughout this age. His doctrine and practice should have been allowed to pilot the saints over the sea during the past 2000 years. The Church today has disregarded the Pauline Revelation and have enter a storm that will cause much damage and hurt to Christendom.

(Acts 27:11) Nevertheless the centurion believed the master and the owner of the ship, more than those things which were spoken by Paul.

The prophetic word is now opening to the Church, but the leadership is rejecting the message. Paul warns the Church what is going to happen, but the ship is not being guided by Paul. Intellectualism rules the day. The two errors made by leadership in the Church today is not seeking the Lord in their decision-making process, and not heeding the wisdom of God's man, the Apostle Paul, who did seek the Lord's guidance The Church ship has been guided by a leadership that has rejected the Holy Ghost.

*(Acts 27:12) And because the haven was not commodious to winter in, the more part advised to depart thence also, if by any means they might attain to **Phenice**, and there to winter; which is an haven of Crete, and lieth toward the south west and north west.*

Again we find no mention of the Lord in the decision to go 40 more miles to **Phenice**. Nor did they follow the plan laid out by the Apostle Paul. The Church did not consider “**fair havens**” as a good harbor because it was not “commodious (convenient)” to gain access to the island and the conveniences there (their false doctrines) since the southern side of the mountains was very steep. When the people rule (majority) usually it means the Truth and the Holy Spirit take a back seat. The Church moves to **Pheince** and the spiritual warfare stops and we all eat “dates.” Or simply, the carnal (flesh) rules. (Pheince means “palm tree.” The Church wants to sail south in the prosperity message and visible church. The true church goes north toward the open door to escape in translation.

*(Acts 27:13) And when the **south wind blew softly**, supposing that they had obtained their purpose, loosing thence, they sailed close by Crete.*

South winds are blowing on the Church today. There is little persecution. “**South winds**” imply easy sailing. Set back and relax. Enjoy. No conflict. No battles.

The Church Heads into a Great Storm Caused by Spiritual Forces

*(Acts 27:14) But not long after there arose against it a tempestuous wind, called **Euroclydon**.*

Now when God's people are at ease, suddenly there is a spiritual storm. Just when they think they “are sailing along, doing their works” then boom! It hits them square. Nowhere else in scripture is this word “**Euroclydon**” found. “Euroclydon” come from two Greek words, “euros” meaning wind, and “kludon” meaning a wave. This kind of wind is common in the Mediterranean Sea in the spring, and in the fall, and has been recorded at speeds up to fifty miles per hour. The “Euroclydon” is often gusty, and shifty, it has been known to shred sails on ships.

Christendom down thru the Church Age have done it their way. Now when we get to the end of the Age, God must Judge it and separate the wheat from the chaff. For the Church it is called the Krima Judgment. See Special Study “[Spirit Storm.](#)” When God's agenda or Day (777) comes on the scene and the Devil tries to keep his foothold (666) at the same time we get a Nor easter. It is a storm that is made up of winds from the North and from the East. The East Winds is symbolic of satanic destruction. The North Wind is symbolic of the intervention by God.

(Jer 18:17) “I will scatter them as with an east wind before the enemy; I will show them the back, and not the face, in the day of their calamity.”

(Gen 41:27) And the seven then and ill favoured kine that came up after the are seven years; and the seven empty ears blasted with the east wind shall be seven years of famine.

(Psa 48:7) Thou breakest the ships of Tarshish with an east wind.

(Job 37:22) Fair weather cometh out the north, with God is terrible majesty.

(Ezek 1:4) And I looked, and, behold, a whirlwind came out of the north, a great cloud, and a fire infolding itself, and a brightness was about it, and out of the midst thereof as the colour of amber, out of the midst of the fire.

The Church is heading for a “Euroaquilo.” Heavenly forces are going to blow upon the Church. There will be a great move of the Holy Spirit and at the same time Satanic forces will be bringing in Ecumenism and persecution.

*(Acts 27:15) And when the ship was **caught**, and could not bear up into the wind, we let her **drive**.*

What conflict. They don't know what to do. Confusion reigns. They could no longer stir the ship. The effort the sailors were now putting forth trying to point the ship toward land as the strong winds carried it further, and further away from shore was failing. They hadn't yet got to the point found in verse 20 when all hope was lost.

The word “**caught**” means “to seize by force and carry away, or to catch or lay hold of (one so that he is no longer his own master).” The Lord was beginning to show all on board this ship that He was the Master of the winds and in charge of their lives. The word “**drive**” means “carried with the force, and speed of the wind, unable to overcome it's power.” (Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit saith the Lord.)



End Time Church Does Not Hold Sound Doctrine

*(Acts 27:16) And running under a certain island which is called **Clauda**, we had much work to come by the boat:*

Claudia means “lame.” The Church became “lame” at the turn of this century because as a whole they had rejected the working power of the Holy Spirit. The “**boat**” here is the lifeboat that is pulled behind the ship. The lifeboat was probably making it difficult to steer the ship. This speaks of “eternal life” by grace alone. Man wants to add works. They most likely had not secured the lifeboat as they left the fair havens was because it was a short forty-mile sail in smooth seas. We now know the lifeboat was never secured. They wanted to avoid it banging along the side of the ship, doing damage to both vessels, so they needed to properly stow it on board deck. The statement “**we had much work to come by the boat**” or by reclaiming the lifeboat, the crew was giving in to the fact that they weren't going to shore any time soon.

*(Acts 27:17) Which when they had taken up, they **used helps**, undergirding the ship; and, fearing lest they should fall into the **quick sands**, **strake sail**, and **so were driven**.*

The “**helps**” are the “works that the church as a whole says we need so as to secure our own “eternal life.” These are the doctrines of men. These winds are going to drive the ecclesiastical church ship. The wind of the Holy Spirit and Satanic winds blow at the same time. Confusion reigns.

History records that the ancient sailors feared The Syrtis, or “**quick sands**,” on the African coast to the southwest of Crete. “**Strake sail**” means to take in the main sail, or cut it away, and set a much smaller sail with the intent of turning the ship into the wind as much as possible. Probably the ship would lie to one side or the other, preferably into the wind. Such action would have made it much easier to get the lifeboat on board. This is all the control of the ship they were now going to get, “and **so were driven.**” There is a subtle difference we note here in Luke’s tone, for in verse 15 he writes “we let her drive.” Here in verse 17 Luke states “and so were driven.” In each succeeding verse we see more and more hopelessness expressed by the crew in their actions on board this ship

*(Acts 27:18) And we being **exceedingly tossed** with a tempest, the next day they **lightened the ship;***

Most likely they were leaning considerably to the right. So, their cargo shifts to the right side of the ship causing it to lean even more to the right. “**Exceedingly tossed**” indicates that the church is very soon heading into great turmoil, a conflict between the power of the Holy Spirit and formalism. Once the Holy Spirit is rejected, then something is going to get kicked out of the “ecclesiastical ship.”

“**They lightened the ship**” in one day by casting their cargo into the sea. This was the same thing done in Jonah 1:5 when they were trying to save the ship before deciding to throw Jonah overboard.

*(Acts 27:19) And the third day we cast out with our own hands the **tackling** of the ship.*

Tackling is the ropes and pulleys that are used to control the sails and steer the ship. (John 16:13) “when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth. The Truth that should guide the ship is thrown overboard.

*(Acts 27:20) And when **neither sun nor stars in many days appeared**, and no small tempest lay on us, **all hope** that we should be saved was then taken away.*

The phrase “**many days**” is mentioned for the second time in this chapter. The word “**all hope**” means “favorable and confident expectation.” We find that all favorable and confident expectation that they should be arriving safe at a destination was then taken away. In Acts 27:25 Paul will say “I believe God, that it shall be even as it was told me.” Paul believed God that he was going to Rome, even though all around him had lost “hope” of ever achieving a land destination. Paul had a “hope” far above, and beyond what man could see. The light of the “**sun, moon, and stars**” is the message of the Heavenly Calling, the Gospel of Glory, which has not been heard in the Church “for a very long time. Persecutors will fight against the message and attempt to shut it off.



Paul Comes Up on Deck

(Acts 27:21) But **after long abstinence Paul stood forth in the midst of them**, and said, Sirs, ye should have **hearkened unto me**, and not have loosed from Crete, and to have gained this **harm and loss**.

Paul's message of Grace will triumph and come forth as the ship is heading for shipwreck. Grace, the Heavenly Calling, and Times and Seasons will be heavily anointed during the coming months. Eternal life and the Prophetic Word shall have its place. If the Church would have preached Paul's Gospel this great end time disaster would not have happened.

"Hearkened unto me" Paul was reminding the church that it really was necessary for them have listened unto his counsel, and to have not set sail from Crete, because he was speaking words from a higher authority than himself. The Apostle Paul is the Apostle for the Church. The word **"hearkened"** means "to obey one in authority."

Paul was also indicating to them that he felt the hurt of this **"harm and loss"** that they all were now facing. So, Paul here was in a very passionate, and loving way expressing to all on board this ship that it now would be to their advantage to listen, to hearken unto him again. And that is why we find Paul standing in the midst of them, so they could all hear his words from the Lord of hope, and deliverance. It is time for the Church to bring Paul and His gospel back on deck.

*(Acts 27:22) And now I exhort you to be of **good cheer**: for there shall be no loss of any man's life among you, but of the ship.*

This is a type of the security we have in Christ. Man's organization (that is the ship) will not finish the racecourse. But everyone in Christ will reach the heavenly goal. (See John 10:28 and Rom 8:38-39.)

Hopeless men were given words of hope, the 276 souls on board this ship pondered what Paul had just said. The storm was still the same, and nothing else had changed, but at long last Paul had got to speak unto this captive audience the words of the Lord. The Lord through the Holy Spirit is going to breath upon Paul's gospel and the heavenly calling one last time during the **"Seven Good Years."**

For them to enter into Paul's **good cheer**, they would have to believe Paul first of all, and then to believe Paul's Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. John 16:33 "These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world. Paul didn't include loss of life, but loss of a corruptible ship.

*(Acts 27:23) For there stood by me this night the **angel of God**, whose I am, and whom I serve,*

This **angel of God** was the preincarnate Christ himself who had given Paul hope. 2 Tim 4:17 “Notwithstanding the Lord stood with me, and strengthened me; that by me the preaching might be fully known, and that all the Gentiles might hear: and I was delivered out of the mouth of the lion.”

(Acts 27:24) Saying, Fear not, Paul; thou must be brought before Caesar: and, lo, God hath given thee all them that sail with thee.

The Apostle Paul is promised to finish his course in Christ Jesus.

*(Acts 27:25) Wherefore, sirs, be of good cheer: **for I believe God**, that it shall be even as it was told me.*

“For I believe God, that it shall be even as it was told me.” All full overcomers must come to this very same point in their own life for I believe God, that it shall be even as it was told me. The Word of God stands no matter our circumstances. God will prevail.

*(Acts 27:26) Howbeit we must be cast upon **a certain island**.*

“A certain island” is Melita (Malta) meaning “refuge.” The heavenly shores for the true believers. Heaven is a “refuge” to the believer. The Church’s calling is heavenly. See Special Study [“Order of the Resurrection.”](#)



The Church
Approaches
Ecumenical
Shipwreck

The Church Approaches Ecumenical Shipwreck

*(Acts 27:27) But when the fourteenth night was come, as we were driven up and down in Adria, **about midnight** the shipmen deemed that they drew near to some country;*

Could there be a time frame here for us? 14 years to Rev 17 & 18. **“About midnight”** could represent the middle of the Tribulation Period when the ship totally breaks up. **“Adria”** means “My help is God.” It may also mean “I need help!” or “my help.”

*(Acts 27:28) And **sounded**, and found it twenty fathoms: and when they had gone a little further, they sounded again, and found it fifteen fathoms.*

“**Sounded**” indicates the checking of Times and Seasons. We can search to know the time of the end. It is now time to know express times. Let’s “sound” the alarm.

*(Acts 27:29) Then fearing lest we should have fallen upon rocks, they cast **four anchors** out of the stern, and wished for the day.*

“**Four Anchors**” Four is the number of the world. The Church at this time will not turn to the Heavens. They will set up a New World Order that will produce Antichrist. They are hoping that “ecumenical unity” will prevent shipwreck.

*(Acts 27:30) And as the shipmen were about to flee out of the ship, when they had let down the boat into the sea, under **colour** as though they would have cast anchors out of the foreship,*

“Colour” means an outward showing, i.e., pretext: - cloke, colour, pretence, show. The Church Leadership, not caring for the flock and not holding to Paul’s message, decide not to believe Paul and attempt to secure eternal life according to their false beliefs. Paul believed His Gospel fully. Remember in Verse 25: “for I believe God, that it shall be even as it was told me.” Paul was fully persuaded that eternal life was by grace alone and he preached it to the Church.

(Acts 27:31) Paul said to the centurion and to the soldiers, Except these abide in the ship, ye cannot be saved.

Paul, the Steward of the Dispensation of Grace now speaks “Except these abide in the ship, ye cannot be saved.” See Special Study [“Paul, the Chief Apostle to the Church.”](#) Whether you believe it or not, Salvation is by Grace, and by Grace alone. Amen! Paul’s Gospel is the TRUTH for salvation. There is no other way.

The Church Receives the Final Message Under the “Geshem” Behold He Commeth”

*(Acts 27:32) Then the soldiers **cut off the ropes** of the boat, and let her fall off.*

There absolutely is no other way to receive eternal life than by Paul’s Gospel. Under Paul’s direction “**the rope**” of false doctrines are “**cut off.**” The soldiers did believe Paul and quickly cut the ropes from the lifeboat.

*(Acts 27:33) And while **the day was coming** on, Paul besought them **all to take meat**, saying, This day is the fourteenth day that ye have tarried and continued fasting, having taken nothing.*

The Day of the Lord is coming on. It is time for “meat in due season” – Matt 24:45-51. Paul’s doctrine will once again arise and be a word of wisdom at a dark hour the church will be in confusion and not know what it will take to cross the Jordan.

“**The day was coming**” We do believe that the Day of the Lord is now breaking in the heavens, and, thereafter, it will soon break upon the earth. The Lord is the “Sun of Righteousness” (Malachi 4:2), or simply, He is the very “Light of that Day” (Light of God). So, His presence, wherever He may be or whatever He may be doing, as He is now in “His Erchomai, His Return” (Rev 1:7), defines the existence of His Day, the Day of the Lord. His Day is defined in Matt. 24:27, as we would witness the normal 24-hour day with the Sun rising in the East and setting in the West. This Day will begin with the Lord stepping down from the Right Hand of the Father where He has been seated, as our Great Intercessor, through the Church age [“Progressive Coming of the Lord.”](#)

He will enter the Sides (Recesses) of the North, spanning the third and second heavens, to begin the early process of cleansing the heavens of Satan and his hordes. Having gained a place for His feet in the “midst” of the Churches, the Lord (as the Rev 1 Judge of the Church) will enter into “His Parousia.” He will first receive full overcomers who have fallen asleep in Christ, as they have been judged throughout the Church age via the written word - (Heb 4:16). They will assist Him as He continues to cleanse the heavens through the [“Seven Good Years”](#)- (Genesis 41). The Lord will undoubtedly fulfill the role as the Captain of the Lord’s Host, as described in the Book of Joshua, in the cleansing of the heavenly land over a seven-year period. During these same seven years, the Lord, as the Living Word (Rev 1:16), will begin the judgment at the house of God of the Living Church, as depicted in Rev 1, 2, and 3, i.e., the “Krima” of the Church which clearly takes place on the Day of the Lord. He will subsequently take His throne in preparation for the events in Rev 4. Thereafter, He will receive the full overcomers, who are alive and remain unto His coming through the open door in the type of the Apostle John – (Rev 4:1). Following Rev 4 and 5, He will subsequently receive the second rank of the Church out of the “hour of trial” – (Rev 7). See [“Order of the Resurrection.”](#) We reiterate that the Apostle John viewed the Judge of the Church standing in the midst of the Churches in a vision on the beginning of the Day of the Lord “and his countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength” – (Rev 1:16).

*(Acts 27:34) Wherefore I pray you to take **some meat**: for this is for your **health**: for there shall not an hair fall from the head of any of you.*

God perfectly planned to have the ship anchor in the middle of the night and storm just off of the coast so their deliverance was from God alone. Only Paul was receiving divine guidance on how to prepare and how to exit. “**Health**” means deliverance, safety, perseverance salvation. Meat means nourishment. “**Not an hair fall from the head**” is full of faith and assurance. This saying about hair was a Hebrew proverb meaning a person will be safe and not perish. (Used in I Sam 14:45, 2 Sam 14:11, I Kings 1:32 and Luke 21:18.) Example of the incredible strength and saving Power of God compared to a man losing one hair which is usually of little or no importance.

(Acts 27:35) And when he had thus spoken, he took bread, and gave thanks to God in presence of them all: and when he had broken it, he began to eat.

Paul showed proper order of giving thanks to God in front of everyone before he ate. Paul was always careful to give God all the glory.

(Acts 27:36) Then were they all of good cheer, and they also took some meat.

Spiritual meat is for spiritual health. Doctrine or strong meat will be necessary for the church to get through the open door of translation.

*(Acts 27:37) And we were **in all in** the ship two hundred threescore and sixteen souls.*

Giving an exact number here marks the mighty keeping power of God. Not a hair lost. Interesting choice of words “**in all in**” emphasizing not only are they all in a ship but all in with Paul leading and his words.

*(Acts 27:38) And when they **had eaten enough**, they lightened the ship, and cast out the wheat into the sea.*

Paul's message is a message of Meat in due Season. It is this message that will strengthen us and increase our faith for the heavenly call translation. All other false doctrines and replacement theology that satisfy the flesh must be thrown overboard.

"Had eaten enough" They naturally had enough to sustain them also have enough spiritually to make the crossing – wise virgins with enough oil in their lamps. Why did they wait to cast out the wheat and not the first time they were casting things off the ship? All hope was not lost the first time and not ready to fully give up on the ship. Setting the wheat off the boat was the last action before day light.

*(Acts 27:39) And when it was day, they knew not the land: but they discovered a certain creek with a shore, into the which they **were minded, if it were possible, to thrust in the ship.***

The shore is that of Ecumenism. This is Protestantism and Catholicism together in a false visible unity. It is this false unity that will bring in the Anti-Christ. A creek with a shore was an inlet with a sandy beach. **"Were minded"** means were determined.

"If it were possible" there were many obstacles (weather, wind, rudders do not work with anchors, and on the 3rd day of the storm they threw over all of the tackle.

"Thrust in the ship" or head it toward the sandy beach.

*(Acts 27:40) And when they had **taken up the anchors**, they committed themselves unto the sea, and **loosed the rudder bands**, and hoised up the mainsail to the wind, and made toward shore.*

The time will come when the ecclesiastical systems will completely give the ship over to the Satanic trinity. See Special Study ["The World System \(666\)."](#) They will let the Satanic winds (spirits) blow them to the ecumenical shore. The Dragon will be their god. They will listen to the False Prophet and they will worship the Anti-Christ.

"Taken up the anchors" means in the Greek to cast off the anchors to the sea. **"Loosed the rudder bands"** had to be done at the same time as the anchors were released to work themselves toward the shore as they were left with a tattered mainsail. All this effort required the entire ships crew lending wisdom to Paul's words earlier "Except these abide in the ship, ye cannot be saved."

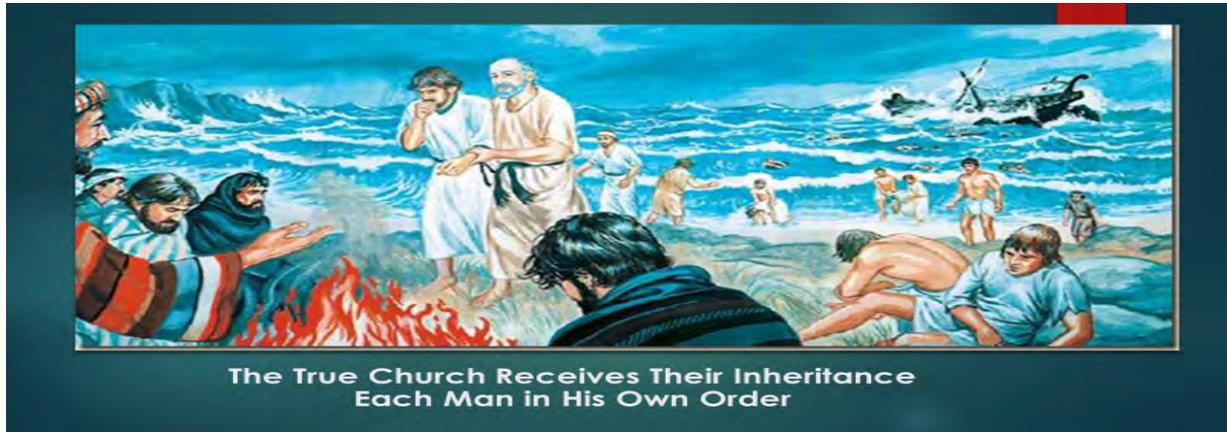


The Shipwreck of the Organized Church

*(Acts 27:41) And **falling into a place where two seas met**, they ran the ship aground; and the forepart stuck fast, and remained unmoveable, but the hinder part was broken with the violence of the waves.*

As. A.S. Copley says, “Two gigantic religious seas – Catholicism and Protestantism – meet of the present Church Age.” The forepart of the ship which remained unmovable is Catholicism. (See Rev 17 & 18.) It will stay intact to the very end. The Pope will survive has head. “The hinder part,” Visible Protestantism, will be broken to pieces and swallowed up into the ecumenical system and become a part of the Harlot system. The Protestants will look to the Pope as their Moral and Political leader.

“**Falling into a place**” They intended to get closer to shore but God who was in control of the winds and waves settled the ship a distance out on a rocky reef or sandbar requiring a journey to the water from the ship to the shore.



The True Church Receives Their Inheritance – Each Man in His Own Order

*(Acts 27:42) And the soldiers' **counsel** was to kill the prisoners, lest any of them should swim out, and escape.*

“**Counsel**” means a piece of advice or counsel of men. But there was no place to escape to on an open seas or island. We have to remember if a prisoner was not delivered then the fate of the soldier was death.

(Acts 27:43) But the centurion, willing to save Paul, kept them from their purpose; and commanded that they which could swim should cast themselves first into the sea, and get to land:

Julius a type of the holy spirit gives specific directions on how to exit the ship. Save Paul or gospel of grace and every man in his own order. Swimmers are a type of full overcomers. They are faithful ones completely dependent on God. They do not need to hang on to a board or any part of a church system.

(Acts 27:44) And the rest, some on boards, and some on broken pieces of the ship. And so it came to pass, that they escaped all safe to land.

Paul spoke the truth and it came to pass. There are different ranks of believers. I Cor 15:23 – “order” from “tagma” meaning “rank.” First rank believers are the swimmers that totally depend upon God’s grace. The other ranks, “some on boards, and some on broken pieces of the ship” hold to what portions of the truth they know to get to shore and at different times. See Special Study [“Order of the Resurrection.”](#)

*(Acts 28:1) And when they were escaped, then they knew that the island was called **Melita**.*

Melita, now called Malta, means “refuge.” To the true believer, “each man in their own order” will arrive at their heavenly refuge.

(I Cor 15:22-23) “For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ’s at his coming.”

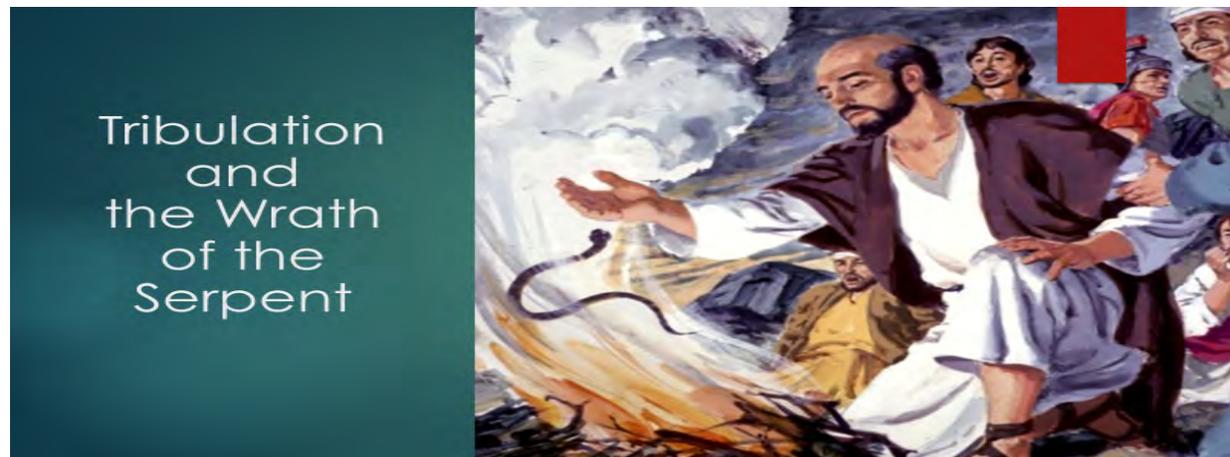
Verses 1-6 in Acts 28 all occur on the same day as the day they landed on the island. Paul is now called to a new purpose from the ship to the island. Melita is from a Greek word that means honey. In history Melita was known as a producer of large quantities of honey. It was also a place of escape from storms for the Phoenicians and received the title of “to escape.”

*(Acts 28:2) And the **barbarous people shewed us** no little **kindness**: for they kindled a fire, and **received us every one**, because of the present rain, and because of the cold.*

“**Barbarous people**” I Cor 14:11 Therefore if I know not the meaning of the voice, I shall be unto him that speaketh a barbarian, and he that speaketh shall be a barbarian unto me.

Common languages of Paul’s day were Greek, Latin, and Hebrew. “**Received us everyone**” Status, denomination, ethnicity, or wealth did not matter. Everyone was received in heaven if you are born again. **Kindness** here means “love” and “mercy.” Same meaning is used in Titus 3:4 But after that the kindness and love of God our Saviour toward man appeared. This was clearly a “love thy neighbor” comes from a Love of God towards man.

“**Shewed us**” means to “bring or minister” implies continual kindness beyond this immediate time frame. Type of God’s love towards the people on the ship. “**No little**” is an expression Luke likes to use in his writings (Acts 12:18, 15:2, 19:23-24, 27:20) It has the same weight as “remarkable, exceedingly, abundantly above- type of God’s never ending provision. “**Kindled a fire**”- type of kindling the holy spirit through prayer, preaching of the word, praise, and mediation.



Tribulation and the Wrath of the Serpent

*(Acts 28:3) And when Paul had gathered a bundle of sticks, and laid them on **the fire**, there came a viper out of the heat, and fastened on his hand.*

“**Fire**” means “fire or pile of burning fuel.” The basis of judgement will be Paul’s revelation. Satan will oppose but he cannot harm the Truth or take away eternal life from God’s people. (Read Rev 12:7-12.)

*(Acts 28:4) And when the barbarians saw the venomous beast hang on his hand, they said among themselves, No doubt this man is a **murderer**, whom, though he hath escaped the sea, yet **vengeance** suffereth not to live.*

Again “barbarians” Paul refers to are people who do not speak a language he speaks. “**Vengeance**” means judgement where other places it means punishment. God used Paul in this way so he could preach the gospel of grace.

(Acts 28:5) And he shook off the beast into the fire, and felt no harm.

(Luke 10:19) I Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.

(Acts 28:6) Howbeit they looked when he should have swollen or fallen down dead suddenly: but after they had looked a great while, and saw no harm come to him, they changed their minds, and said that he was a god.

God proves He is with Paul and his gospel. God used what these people knew as a powerful deadly viper bite to give demonstration of the Power of God. Man is unstable in his flesh showing how quickly they are against and then for Paul. Men are drawn to miracles when they should be drawn the anointed Word of God.

That venomous “**beast**” most likely represents that “great red dragon” of Rev 12:3. That old Serpent, the Devil, will be judged and cast into the Lake of Fire. (Rev 20:10) And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

“No harm come to him (Paul) represents the eternal life and absolute security that all of God’s people have, each company of saints that trust in Him.



Kingdom Blessing Foreshadowed

*(Acts 28:7) In the same quarters were possessions of the chief man of the island, whose name was **Publius**; who received us, and lodged us three days courteously.*

Acts 28:7-10 was over 3 months.

The island Melita was under Roman rule and Publius was the governor. Normally Publius was only required to take care and service the Roman soldiers, Here he received Paul and his faithful companions. Publius means “common; first” and speaks of the gospel given to the Jew first.

*(Acts 28:8) And it came to pass, that the father of Publius lay sick of a fever and of a bloody flux: to whom Paul **entered in**, and prayed, and laid his hands on him, and healed him.*

(Acts 28:9) So when this was done, others also, which had diseases in the island, came, and were healed:

“**Entered in**” Paul was given an open door of ministry. The first thing he does is **pray** in faith and expecting. Paul then **laid hands** in Jesus’ name and then he was **healed**. “The father of Publius lay sick” speaks of the Israel that rejected their Messiah and has been scattered over the face of the earth. Israel will be healed, and the “new generation” will come into her Kingdom blessings and again be offered salvation but this time “all Israel will be saved.”

*(Acts 28:10) Who also **honoured** us with many **honours**; and when we departed, they **laded** us **with such things** as were **necessary**.*

Notice the word of “us” and “we.” Because of Paul all 276 received the same blessing.

(Isa 12:1-3) And in that day thou shalt say, O Lord, I will praise thee: though thou wast angry with me, thine anger is turned away, and thou comfortedst me. Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: for the Lord Jehovah is my strength and my song; he also is become my salvation. Therefore with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation.

“**Honoured**” means an inestimable value on a person and translates to the preciousness of Christ. “**Honours**” magnifies the first word in a double portion of gratitude – I Tim 5:17. Both words express a high value of reverence. “**Laded**” mean laid their hands on the gifts available to them. These gifts were to supply their needs until they reached Rome. “**Necessary**” means supply that which is lacking. These gifts could be what supplied Paul’s “hired house” for 2 years in Rome. Remember all was lost in the shipwreck.



The
Ecclesiastical
Ship Become
Totally
Apostate

The Ecclesiastical Ship Become Totally Apostate

*(Acts 28:11) And after three months we departed in a ship of **Alexandria**, which had wintered in the isle, whose sign was Castor and Pollux.*

“Castor and Pollux” were the twin patrons of distressed seamen in Greek and Roman mythology. This new ship was probably known by their names and probably carried the gods on the masthead or as the figurehead. Traditionally they were the sons of Zeus. Castor was a great charioteer and Pollux a boxer. When Pollux was offered immortality by Zeus he chose to share death with Castor who had been killed in a fight. These two have to represent the False Prophet and the Anti-Christ. They will have full control of the ecclesiastical apostate church during the last half of the tribulation period. The Anti-Christ whose “deadly wound was healed” will join the False Prophet and be cast into the Lake of Fire at the end of the tribulation period.

(Rev 19:20) And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.

Tribulation and Destruction

*(Acts 28:12) And landing at **Syracuse**, we tarried there three days.*

(Acts 28:13) And from thence we fetched a compass, and came to Rhegium: and after one day the south wind blew, and we came the next day to Puteoli:

Syracuse means “that draws violently.” First three years will be time of persecution. Rhegium means “fracture.” Middle of the “week” Satan will be cast to the earth. Puteoli means “sulfurous wells.” A highly corrosive chemical. “Last half” is the time of God’s vials of wrath and Satan’s wrath. All these names speak of the Tribulation Period and how violently the apostate visible church will be destroyed. (Read Rev 17:16- 18:8.) See Special Study [“Covenant Week.”](#)

Paul Finds Brethren on His Way to Rome

*(Acts 28:14) Where we found brethren, and were **desired** to tarry with them seven days: and so we went toward Rome.*

This was a time to prepare to travel by foot for 125 miles to Rome. Their immediate plans to Rome were put on hold for 7 days. This request for Paul to stay was granted by Julius. The road to Rome from Puteoli was called the “Queen of Roads.” The average travel time by foot is 25 miles a day which means they were 5 days from Rome.

*(Acts 28:15) And from thence, when the brethren heard of us, they came to meet us as far as **Appii forum, and The three taverns**: whom when **Paul saw, he thanked God, and took courage.***

Appii was a town 3-4 days from Puteoli. It took at least a few days for the brethren (believers) there to hear that Paul was in Puteoli. Ten miles further than Appii was the town “**The Three Taverns**” where a second group of Christians came to greet Paul. No doubt Paul was overwhelmed by goodness of God and the loyalty he was receiving and how many had heard his gospel. Paul saw the faithfulness of the Lord. He thanked God for their spiritual growth not the attention he was getting personally. Paul took courage in the Lord only. Remember Acts 23:11, Jesus Christ told Paul to be of good cheer and that he would bear witness of Christ in Rome. The Lord always fulfills His word.

*(Acts 28:16) And when we came to **Rome**, the centurion delivered the prisoners to the captain of the guard: but Paul was suffered to dwell by himself with a soldier that kept him.*

Will there still be believers left in this final ecclesiastical system? Yes. For seven years (seven days) God will be removing His people out of this time of trial. During the “last half” or “Great Tribulation” there will be few of God’s people left here and they will be admonished to come out of her, the apostate system. Paul’s continued presence here represents that God’s people, no matter which rank, will possess eternal life by Paul’s gospel.

(Rev 7:14) And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

(Rev 18:4) And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.

(Rev 14:13) And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them.

(Rev 20:4) And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.