

III. The Food that Brings Hope (27:33-44)

- A. *This is for your salvation.* (33-38)
 - i. “*not a hair from your head will perish*” (Luke 21:18)
 - ii. Communion?
- B. Landing Safely on the Distant Shore (39-44)
 - i. “**And so it was that all were brought safely to land.**”
 - ii. “*And so it was that all were saved upon the earth.*”

LIVE THE STORY

The Gospel is intended to be learned and lived in community. The following questions are designed for use in our Community Groups as an aid to growth in the Gospel and Community.

- Have you ever felt as if your life is under the control of opposing forces? Like everything else is in control? What can we learn from this account to help us in those times?
- In 27:12 the majority decides to go against Paul's warning. Can you think of ways the majority might go against God's word today?
- It is not uncommon that those who ignore God's warnings go along seemingly quite well for a while as happens here (27:13). Have you seen examples of this? ...in your own life?
- Have you ever been through a long dark night, fearing being “dashed against the rocks,” and were praying for “the day to come”? When does “the day” ultimately come for us?
- In what sense are we called to be living Acts 27? How might this chapter be a picture of the larger story of Luke-Acts, the story of God traveling to us in order that His salvation may travel to all flesh—every tribe and nation?

Finishing the Mission Against All Odds

Jerry Cisar — February 22, 2015

Text: Acts 27

Let me tell you a story...

- A. Acts 27 and its Parting Message
 - i. Luke-Acts is really about one travel story: *The story of God traveling to us in order that His salvation may travel to all flesh—every tribe and nation.*
 - ii. John the Baptist (Luke 3:4-6)
 - iii. “*God's salvation has been sent to the nations and they will listen.*” (Acts 28:28)
 - B. This travel record is united to the over-arching travel story of Luke—Acts.
 - C. Acts 27 is Paul's story but is intended to become our story too.
- #### I. Everything is Against Us (27:1-12)
- A. Setting out on a dangerous journey (1-8)
 - i. Who decided? (25:25; 23:11).
 - ii. Getting a ride on a ship
 - iii. Aristarchus (Colossians 4:10)
 - iv. Julius and Paul

v. The winds were against them.

a) Act 2:20-21

b) Genesis 1:2

B. Paul as a Prophet (9-12)

i. Emperor Claudius paid extra incentives to shipbuilders and owners willing to take risks by sailing in the dangerous season to get extra grain to Rome.¹

ii. Paul is not merely offering advice here.

a) We know Paul is a prophet. They do not.

b) Prophetic messages often began with a warning of doom expecting a response—they do not heed the warning!

c) Ephesians 3

B. And God Said... (21-26)

i. Paul speaks into their darkness and offers life.

ii. Another Sea Voyage – Jonah (Jonah 1:4-9)

iii. The Gospel mission will have 100% success—even when much is lost. (Acts 13:48)

iv. *“Be cheerful, it will happen just as he told me.”*

II. The God of All Hope (27:13-32)

A. All Hope of Salvation Lost (13-20)

i. ESV: *“Now when the south wind blew gently, supposing that they had obtained their purpose....”*

ii. Neither sun nor stars... all hope is lost.

C. Only One Way to be Saved (27-32)

i. James Smith, *The Voyage and Shipwreck of St. Paul.*

ii. Praying for Day to Come

¹ Seutonius, Tacitus