

### **Acts 27 and 28**

*The following night the Lord stood by him and said, "Take courage, for as you have testified to the facts about me in Jerusalem, so you must testify also in Rome." // Acts 23:11*

*18 And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." // Matthew 28:18-20*

#### **Caesarea to Myra (27:1-5)**

- "The apostle had spent over twenty-five years of ministry in the eastern part of the Roman Empire (Rom 15:19-20), but he had dreams of taking the gospel as far west as Spain, using Rome as a launching pad (Rom 15:22-29)." // Merida, Exalting Jesus in Acts
- "About three years before this trip, Paul had written his letter to the Romans preparing them for his visit." // Merida, Exalting Jesus in Acts
- "Under the best of conditions, and sailing straight to Rome from Caesarea, it would take five weeks to transfer Paul to his intended destination. But when this trip is over, the journey will have taken well over four months." Bock, Acts
- "This first ship appears to be a coastal vessel, traveling close to the shore and putting in at the various ports along the way." Polhill, Acts

- "Later, when Paul writes to the Colossians from the Roman prison, he mentions the presence of both Luke and Aristarchus (Col 4:10,14). Aristarchus had been traveling with Paul for some time and was caught up in the persecution Paul faced in Ephesus (cf. Acts 19:29; 20:4). Paul describes him as his "fellow prisoner" (Col 4:10), and in Philemon (another prison letter) he calls him his coworker." // Merida, Exalting Jesus in Acts

#### **Myra to Malta (27:6-44)**

- "This vessel was a freight ship used for transporting grain (v. 38), with Egypt being Rome's main granary." // Stott, Message of Acts
- "the time between September and November was particularly dangerous for sea travel. In fact, it ceased entirely between November and mid-February or mid-March." Bock, Acts
- "The angel gave Paul two promises: (1) Paul must appear before Caesar; and (2) all aboard the ship would be graciously delivered with Paul. Because of these promises, there was no need to fear." // Merida, Exalting Jesus in Acts
- "Fight fear by remembering God's faithful promises. Rest in his comforting presence." // Merida, Exalting Jesus in Acts
- "Luke's reference to the "Adriatic Sea" used a first-century name for the north central Mediterranean between Crete and Malta." // Gangel, Acts
- "Paul's calm consumption, and especially his public thanksgiving to the God of all grace, bears witness to the peace amid life's storms that Jesus gives through the new covenant." // Johnson, Let's Study Acts

- “It wasn’t a sacred meal the men shared, but it was indeed a “sacred moment” // Bock, Acts

#### **Malta to Italy (28:1-16)**

- “local people” (v. 2)—that is, some non-Greek-speaking people. “barbaroi”
- “On its bow it had a figurehead of the “Twin Gods,” Castor and Pollux, who were seen as protectors. It was the Lord of all creation, however, who was the real protector of those onboard.” // Merida, Exalting Jesus in Acts
- “After resting, the men had before them about a five-day walk to Rome by means of two well-traveled roads, the Companion Way and the Appian Way.” // Bock, Acts

#### **Paul in Rome (28:17-31)**

- “In fact, Acts closes without telling us what happened to Paul. We’re not sure how long he lived. We don’t know how long he was able to go on ministering unhindered. We can’t even be certain he ever made it to Spain.” // Merida, Exalting Jesus in Acts
- “Luke concludes Acts on a note of victory, with the triumph of the King.” // Merida, Exalting Jesus in Acts
- “We know of at least one person who was converted during Paul’s house arrest in Rome. He was a runaway servant named Onesimus. Paul wrote a letter to Philemon, the servant’s owner, during this same imprisonment.” // Merida, Exalting Jesus in Acts