

September 6, 2026

PEACE IN THE CHAOS

Courage Before the Outcome

Acts 27:21–26 | ESV



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Sermon Notes

Acts 27:21–26 (ESV)

²¹Since they had been without food for a long time, Paul stood up among them and said, “Men, you should have listened to me and not have set sail from Crete and incurred this injury and loss.

²²Yet now I urge you to take heart, for there will be no loss of life among you, but only of the ship.

²³For this very night there stood before me an angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I worship,

²⁴and he said, ‘Do not be afraid, Paul; you must stand before Caesar. And behold, God has granted you all those who sail with you.’

²⁵So take heart, men, for I have faith in God that it will be exactly as I have been told.

²⁶But we must run aground on some island.”

(Answer key located on the last page)

BIG IDEA — *God’s promise of safety and peace allows us to navigate life’s storms with unshakable faith and courage.*

I. Courageous Words in the Chaos *Acts 27:21–22 (ESV)*

Paul does not pretend the mistake never happened — he reminds them of his earlier _____.

The word translated “courage” carries the idea of being cheerful and steady on the _____ no matter what is happening outside.

Optimism looks at circumstances and hopes for the best; courage looks at _____ and stands firm.

APPLICATION

Identify one person in your life currently in a storm — a health scare, a job loss, a broken relationship, a financial crisis. Before bed tonight, reach out and speak one specific promise from God’s Word over them out loud.

II. Confident Trust in God’s Presence *Acts 27:23–24 (ESV)*

Before Paul tells us what the angel said, he tells us who he _____ to.

Paul knew two things about himself with total certainty — he was God’s property, and he was God’s _____.

Two hundred seventy-five people, most who did not know God, were kept safe because one man in their boat belonged to _____.

APPLICATION

Write down two short sentences on a card: “I belong to God” and “I worship Him alone.” When fear rises up in your own storm this week, say those two sentences out loud before you say anything else.

III. Convicted Faith That Conquers *Acts 27:25–26 (ESV)*

The verb translated “have faith” does not mean a hopeful feeling. It means a settled, active _____.

Real faith does not promise the absence of _____. It promises the presence and the faithfulness of God through the trouble.

Paul’s convicted faith could hold both truths at once: the ship is still going to wreck, and not a single _____ will be lost.

APPLICATION

Choose one promise from Scripture this week that speaks directly to your storm — for example, Romans 8:28, Isaiah 41:10, or Philippians 4:6–7. Write it on a card or save it in your phone, and speak it out loud every morning this week.

PERSONAL REFLECTION

Am I settling for optimism this week — hoping for the best based on my circumstances — or choosing biblical courage that looks to God and stands firm no matter what? Whose hand am I holding onto in my current storm, and does my life show that I truly belong to Him?

Answer Key

I. Courageous Words in the Chaos

warning | inside | God

II. Confident Trust in God's Presence

belongs | worshiper | Him

III. Convicted Faith That Conquers

trust | trouble | life

The Good News

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, (Romans 5:1)

The Bad News

for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,
(Romans 3:23)

The Ugly News

For the wages of sin is death, ... (Romans 6:23a)

The Great News

... but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.
(Romans 6:23a)

Guess What?

You can become a Christian right now and experience salvation and the gift of eternal life through God's Son the Lord Jesus Christ! Simply Pray this Prayer Right Now! **"God thank you for Jesus Christ who died on the cross for my sins. Thank you for receiving what Jesus did for me on the cross as payment for my sins. Please forgive me for my sins. Right now I accept Jesus into my heart and ask that he become my Savior and Lord! Amen!"**

If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved. (Romans 10:9-10)

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