

ACTS

THE MISSION OF CHRIST LIVED OUT BY HIS CHURCH

Sunday Morning, June 25, 2023 » Pastor Josiah Kagin

Message Title: Emerging with Gratitude and Courage

Message Text: Acts 28:11-15

Introduction:

Paul was on his way to Rome to stand before Nero because he had exercised his right of appeal to Caesar as a Roman citizen. He had done this because the likelihood of a fair trial in Jerusalem was doubtful and his case continued to be stalled with political tensions between the the Roman governors and Jewish religious leaders. Paul would be transported to Rome along with a couple friends and a ship full of criminals likely to the coliseum to provide gory entertainment for the Romans. During the voyage, some risky decisions were made by the pilot to continue to sail during the winter months. A violent Nor'Easter storm arose in the Mediterranean and after fourteen long days caused their large wooden, grain ship to run aground on the rocky coast of Milet or Malta. Paul was stuck there for three months. Today we will see how Paul emerges with gratitude and courage from a season of storms at sea and being stuck on an island. May this be our reality as well.

1. Moving _____ (11-13)

A. The _____ they Left Behind (11a)

Acts 28:11 And after three months we departed...

NOTE — The Mediterranean Sea was too stormy to navigate during the winter months.—Uteley

B. The _____ God Provided (11)

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.

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sermon notes



NOTE — The twin gods Castor and Pollux on the ship's figurehead were the heavenly twin sons of Zeus and Leda according to Greek mythology; supposedly they brought good fortune to mariners. If their constellation, Gemini, was seen during a storm it was an omen of good luck. —BKC

NOTE — God had already provided their means of transportation for the rest of the journey.

Proverbs 3:5–6 Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; And lean not unto thine own understanding. 6 In all thy ways acknowledge him, And he shall direct thy paths.

C. The _____ they Experienced (12-13)

Acts 28:12–13 And landing at Syracuse, we tarried there three days. 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:

MALTA — SYRACUSE: Syracuse was the capital city of Sicily on the southeast coast of the island. It was 80 miles from Malta.

SYRACUSE — RHEGIUM: 70 miles from Syracuse

RHEGIUM — PUTEOLI (*POZZUOLI*): Puteoli was the grain importing center for Rome in the Bay of Naples. It was 182 miles from Rhegium.

Acts 23:11 And the night following the Lord stood by him, and said, Be of good cheer, Paul: for as thou hast testified of me in Jerusalem, so must thou bear witness also at Rome.

2. Meeting New _____ (14)

A. The _____ of the Christians (14b)

Acts 28:14 Where we found brethren, and were desired to tarry with them seven days...

DEFINITION—BRETHREN: sibling believers; believers understood as one's own siblings in God's family.

NOTE — The Gospel had spread from Rome to Puteoli!

DEFINITION—DESIRED: to be entreated; urged

Psalm 133:1 Behold, how good and how pleasant it is For brethren to dwell together in unity!

B. The _____ of the Centurion (14b)

Acts 28:14 ...and so we went toward Rome.

NOTE — It was 130 miles from Puteoli to Rome on the Appian Way.

NOTE — Paul's Christlike demeanor had won the favor of this Roman.

3. Maintaining _____ (15)

A. _____ One Another (15a)

Acts 28:15a And from thence, when the brethren heard of us, they came to meet us as far as Appii forum, and The three taverns...

DEFINITION—MEET: the act of being present at the arrival of someone. *Used in Greek literature of an entourage coming out of a city to meet an official going to the city.*

NOTE — *The Appii forum* was a market town that was 43 miles from Rome and the city of *Three Taverns* was 33 miles from Rome.

1 Thessalonians 4:17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

B. _____ toward God (15b)

Acts 28:15b ...whom when Paul saw, he thanked God, and took courage.

DEFINITION—TOOK COURAGE: to be encouraged; to be inspired with confidence; be given hope or courage. *Used in literature in that day of people in distress who were then encouraged.*

1 Thessalonians 5:18 In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

Conclusion

Have you Trust Jesus Christ as Your Savior?

John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Ephesians 2:8–9 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: 9 Not of works, lest any man should boast.



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