

Voyage to Rome

Bible Text: Acts chapters 27 and 28.

In **Acts Chapter 27** Paul begins his trip to Rome. He is a prisoner accompanied by a centurion with soldiers. He sails to Caesarea, Sidon, north around Cyprus to Myra. There he gets on a ship headed for Rome and the sailing troubles begin. The winds are not right for sailing and they barely make it to Cnidus. They then go south to Fair Havens on the island of Crete. Paul warns them to stay there, but they continue to find a safer harbor for the winter. A storm comes and blows them all over the place until the ship wrecks on the island of Malta.

In Chapter 28 a fire is built on Malta. Paul gathers wood and is bitten by a viper. It doesn't harm him and the island natives believe he is a god. Paul heals the father of Publius, the island leader. Paul also heals many other people on the island. After three months he completes his journey to Rome on an Alexandrian ship. The brethren came to see him. Paul met with the Jewish leaders and taught them about Jesus. Some believed and some didn't. Paul spent two years in his own rented quarters and taught all those who came to him.

Memory Verse

Mark 8:36-37 - "For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?" NKJV

Questions

1. How was Paul treated by the centurion guard? (Acts 27:3)
2. At Fair Havens Paul warned that the ship should not sail because of danger. The captain decided to sail. What was his intent and what happened? (Acts 27:10-15)
3. Read the following verses and tell what Paul did to help while the ship was in danger?
Acts 27:21-22

Acts 27:30-32

Acts 27:33-36

4. How many people were on the ship? (Acts 27:37)

Consider your answer to question #3. What does this indicate about Paul as a leader?

5. Where did the ship wreck? (Acts 28:1)

6. Tell what happened to Paul around the fire? (Acts 28:2-6)

7. How long was Paul on Malta? (Acts 28:11)

What did he do during that time? (Acts 28:7-10)

8. What did Paul tell the Jews at Rome about why he was in chains? (Acts 28:20)

9. What was Paul's final message to the Jews at Rome? (Acts 28:25-29)

10. Describe Paul's imprisonment at Rome? (Acts 28:30-31)

Voyage to Rome

Concept development: Faith – Facing persecution

Body:

It was time for Paul and the other prisoners to go to Rome
Julius of the Augustan band (600 men) was assigned to the mission
He was kind to Paul
The weather was not in favor of their travels (the winds blew against them)
Travel on the Mediterranean was very dangerous between October and March
Because much time was spent in Fair Havens and the travel became dangerous
Paul warned them of the danger
The voyage will encounter with injury and much loss
Both goods and Life
The centurion listens to the ships captain and owner who wanted to continue
The harbor at Fair Havens was not a good place to stay the winter
The storms would normally come from the North
When a south breeze blew they set sail
They were soon taken in by a fierce storm
The under girded the ship and let the sails down to ride out the storm and save the ship
The next day they began to throw the freight over board
The 3rd day they threw the ships furniture overboard
After many days they had lost all hope
They had not eaten for many days
Paul stood up before them and said (an angel appeared to Paul)
If you had listen to me we would not have suffered this loss
The ship will be lost
No loss of life
They would be cast on a certain island
After 14 days they were driven near an island
Some of the crew tried to leave
Paul said that everyone must stay on the ship to be saved (276 people)
Paul told them to eat and their spirits were lifted
They threw the food over board lifted anchor and headed toward the beach
The ship ran aground and began to break apart
The guards wanted to kill the prisoners but Julius wants to save Paul and would not let them
Some swam to shore, some on boards or other things from the ship

Melita
The island of natives built a fire and showed them kindness
When Paul was gathering stick a viper bit him
The barbarians thought he was a murderer
Because no harm came to him they decided he was a god
Publius was the chief man of the island
Paul healed his father and many others on the island
When they came near Rome the brethren came out to meet them
The Market of Appius → 43 miles
The Three Taverns → 23 miles
In Rome Paul had his own place guarded by a soldier
After 3 days Paul called the chief Jews together to tell them his story
They had not heard these things about Paul but they did want to hear about this new sect
Upon hearing the gospel some believed and some did not