

Acts Chapter 27

1. Now when it was decided that we would sail for Italy, they proceeded to turn Paul and some other prisoners over to a centurion of the Augustan cohort, named Julius.

A. Now when it was decided that we would sail for Italy,

1. **decided-** Gr. **krino**

2. **we**

a. The “we” here reintroduces the historian as one of the company. Not that he had left the apostle from the time when he last included himself ([Act 21:18](#)), but the apostle was parted from him by his arrest and imprisonment, until now, when they met in the ship. JFB Commentary

b. The use of the term “we” here shows that the author of this book, Luke, was with Paul. He had been his traveling companion, and though he had not been accused, yet it was resolved that he should still accompany him. Whether he went at his own expense, or whether he was sent at the expense of the Roman government, does not appear. -Barnes

3. **sail-** Gr. **apopleo**

4. **Italy-** Gr. **Italia-** means *abounding with calves, calf-like*

a. Where Caesar ruled from Rome it's capital.

B. they proceeded to turn Paul and some other prisoners over to a centurion of the Augustan cohort,

1. **turn-** Gr. **paradidomi-** *to turn over*

2. **prisoners-** Gr. **desmotes**

3. **centurion-** Gr. **hekatontarches-** *leader of a hundred*

4. **Augustan court-** Gr. **sebastos speira-** *venerable or august squad of men*

a. It was a division in the Roman army consisting of from 400 to 600 men. This was called “Augustus’ band” in honor of the Roman emperor Augustus, and was probably distinguished in some way for the care in enlisting or selecting them. -Barnes

C. named Julius

1. **named-** Gr. **onoma**

2. **Julius-** means *soft haired*

a. There is no mention if this man was a believer but he did

show favor and kindness to Paul. If he was not a believer, it is likely he became one by listening to and watching Paul.

2. So, entering a ship of Adramyttium, we put to sea, meaning to sail along the coasts of Asia. Aristarchus, a Macedonian of Thessalonica, was with us.

A. So,

B. entering a ship of Adramyttium,

1. **entering**-Gr. **epibaino**- *to walk up*

2. **ship**- Gr. **ploion**

3. **Adramyttium**- means *the court of death*

a. How prophetic was this ship's name! It meant "the court of death". This ship would end up being broken up and sunk. Only the grace of God kept Paul from perishing upon this ship.

b. *A maritime town of Mysia, in Asia Minor, opposite to the island of Lesbos. This was a ship which had been built there, or which sailed from that port, but which was then in the port of Caesarea. It is evident, from [Act 27:6](#), that this ship was not expected to sail to Italy, but that the centurion expected to find some other vessel into which he could put the prisoners to take them to Rome.* -Barnes

C. we put to sea,

1. **put to sea**- Gr. **anago**

D. meaning to sail along the coasts of Asia,

1. **meaning**- Gr. **mello**- *intending, about to*

2. **sail**- Gr. **pleo**

3. **coasts**- Gr. **topos**

4. **Asia**- means *orient or muddy*

a. This is Asia Minor not the Asia in the far east.

E. Aristarchus- means *best ruler*

1. Aristarchus was a true servant. His name means "best ruler".

Servants make the best leaders. We are called to servant leadership in the kingdom of God.

2. *This man is mentioned as Paul's companion in travel in [Act 19:29](#). He afterward attended him to Macedonia, and returned with him to Asia, [Act 20:4](#). He now appears to have attended him, not as a prisoner, but as a voluntary companion, choosing to share with him his dangers, and to enjoy the benefit of his society and friendship. He*

went with him to Rome, and was a fellow-prisoner with him there [Col 4:10](#), and is mentioned [Phm 1:24](#) as Paul's fellow-laborer. - Barnes

F. a Macedonian of Thessalonica,

1. Macedonian

a. This was the northern region of Greece where Philippi and Thessalonica was.

2. Thessalonica

a. No doubt that Aristarchus was a convert of Paul in Thessalonica when he ministered there. He would become part of Paul's traveling team.

G. was with us

1. It is a wonderful thing to have people with us. Some will be against us, but stay thankful for those who are with you and for you!

3. And the next *day* we landed at Sidon. And Julius treated Paul kindly and gave *him* liberty to go to his friends and receive care.

A. And the next day we landed at Sidon

1. **day**- Gr. **hemera**
2. **landed**- Gr. **katago**- *to go down*
3. **Sidon**- means *hunting*

B. And Julius treated Paul kindly and gave him liberty to go to his friends and receive care

1. **treated**- Gr. **chraomai**- *to treat, behave towards*
2. **kindly**- Gr. **philanthropos**- *humanely, benevolently, kindly*
 - a. This is the favor of God. We should expect God's favor every day!
3. **gave liberty**- Gr. **epitrepo**- *to turn over, allow*
 - a. He gave Paul liberty in the natural, but God had already given him liberty in the Spirit!
4. **friends**- Gr. **philos**
5. **receive care**- Gr. **tugchano epimeleia**- *to obtain, acquire, enjoy care and attention*
 - a. The same thing had been done by Felix, [Act 24:23](#).
 - b. Paul would continue to have favor even in Rome. [Act 28:16](#)

4. When we had put to sea from there, we sailed under *the shelter* of Cyprus,

because the winds were contrary.

A. When we had put to sea from there,

1. **put to sea-** Gr. **kakeithen anago-** *from that place sailed*

B. we sailed under the shelter of Cyprus,

1. **sailed under-** Gr. **hupopleo**

a. *By sailing “under Cyprus” is meant that they sailed along its coasts; they kept near to it; they thus endeavored to break off the violent winds. Instead of steering a direct course in the open sea, which would have exposed them to violent opposing winds, they kept near this large island, so that it was between them and the westerly winds. The force of the wind was thus broken, and the voyage was rendered less difficult and dangerous. -Barnes*

2. **shelter-** not in the Greek- omit

3. **Cyprus-** means *a blossom*

a. *One of the largest islands of the Mediterranean - about 148 miles long and 40 broad. It is distant about 60 miles from the Syrian coast. It was the “Chittim” of the Old Testament ([Num 24:24](#)). The Greek colonists gave it the name of Kypros, from the cyprus - i.e., the henna (see CAMPHIRE) - which grew on this island. It was originally inhabited by Phoenicians. In 477 B.C. it fell under the dominion of the Greeks; and became a Roman province 58 B.C.. In ancient times it was a centre of great commercial activity. Corn and wine and oil were produced here in the greatest perfection. It was rich also in timber and in mineral wealth. -Easton Dictionary*

C. because the winds were contrary

1. **winds-** Gr. **anemos**

2. **contrary-** Gr. **enantios-** *opposite, antagonistic*

5. And when we had sailed over the sea which is off Cilicia and Pamphylia, we came to Myra, a city of Lycia.

A. And when we had sailed over the sea which is off Cilicia and Pamphylia,

1. **sailed over-** Gr. **diapleo**

2. **sea-** Gr. **pelagos-** *denotes the open or high sea, that part of the water which is deep, in distinction from the its shoreline or other shallow portions*

3. Cilicia- means *land of Celix*

a. *A maritime province in the south-east of Asia Minor. Tarsus, the birth-place of Paul, was one of its chief towns, and the seat of a celebrated school of philosophy. Its luxurious climate attracted to it many Greek residents after its incorporation with the Macedonian empire. It was formed into a Roman province, 67 B.C.. The Jews of Cilicia had a synagogue at Jerusalem (Act 6:9). Paul visited it soon after his conversion (Gal 1:21; Act 9:30), and again, on his second missionary journey (Act 15:41), "he went through Syria and Cilicia, confirming the churches." It was famous for its goat's-hair cloth, called cilicium. Paul learned in his youth the trade of making tents of this cloth. -Easton Dictionary*

4. Pamphylia- means *of every tribe*

a. *It was a province about the middle of the southern sea-board of Asia Minor. It lay between Lycia on the west and Cilicia on the east. There were strangers from Pamphylia at Jerusalem on the day of Pentecost (Act 2:10). -Easton Dictionary*

B. we came to Myra,

1. Myra- means *myrrh*

a. *One of the chief towns of Lycia, in Asia Minor, about 2 1/2 miles from the coast (Act 27:5). Here Paul removed from the Adramyttian ship in which he had sailed from Caesarea, and entered into the Alexandrian ship, which was afterwards wrecked at Melita (Act 27:39-44). -Easton Dictionary*

C. a city of Lycia

1. city- Gr. **polis**

2. Lycia- means *wolfish*

a. *A wolf, a province in the south-west of Asia Minor, opposite the island of Rhodes. It forms part of the region now called Tekeh. It was a province of the Roman empire when visited by Paul (Act 21:1; Act 27:5). Two of its towns are mentioned, Patara (Act 21:1, Act 21:2) and Myra (Act 27:5). -Easton Dictionary*

6. There the centurion found an Alexandrian ship sailing to Italy, and he put us on board.

A. There the centurion found an Alexandrian ship sailing to Italy,

1. centurion- Gr. hekatontarches

a. Julius

2. found- Gr. heurisko

3. Alexandrian

a. *A ship belonging to Alexandria. Alexandria was in Egypt, and was founded by Alexander the Great. It appears from [Act 27:38](#) that the ship was laden with wheat. It is well known that great quantities of wheat were imported from Egypt to Rome, and it appears that this was one of the large ships which were employed for that purpose. Why the ship was on the coast of Asia Minor is not known But it is probable that it had been driven out of its way by adverse winds or tempests. - Barnes*

4. ship- Gr. ploion

5. sailing- Gr. pleo

B. and he put us on board

1. put- Gr. embibazo- *to cause to step into or upon; to set in or upon; especially, to put on board*

2. on board- Gr. eis autos- *into it*

a. Paul had no say in this.

7. When we had sailed slowly many days, and arrived with difficulty off Cnidus, the wind not permitting us to proceed, we sailed under *the shelter of* Crete off Salmone.

A. When we had sailed slowly many days,

1. sailed slowly- Gr. braduploeo

a. This is because of the strong westerly winds.

2. days- Gr. hemera

B. and arrived with difficulty off Cnidus,

1. arrived- Gr. ginomai

2. difficulty- Gr. molis

3. Cnidus- means *nettled*

a. *A city of great consequence, situated at the extreme south west of the peninsula of Asia Minor, on a promontory now called Cape Crio, which projects between the islands of Cos and Rhodes. See [Act 21:1](#). It is now in ruins. Smith Dictionary*

C. the wind not permitting us to proceed,

1. **wind**- Gr. **anemos**
2. **permitting to proceed**- *to permit one to approach or arrive*

D. we sailed under the shelter of Crete off Salmone

1. **sailed under**- Gr. **hupoleo**
 - a. To protect from the winds.
2. **shelter**- *not in Greek, omit*
3. **Crete**- means *flesh*
 - a. *One of the largest islands in the Mediterranean, about 140 miles long and 35 broad. It was at one time a very prosperous and populous island, having a "hundred cities." The character of the people is described in Paul's quotation from "one of their own poets" (Epimenides) in his epistle to Titus: "The Cretans are always liars, evil beasts, slow bellies" (Tit 1:12). Jews from Crete were in Jerusalem on the day of Pentecost (Act 2:11). The island was visited by Paul on his voyage to Rome (Acts 27). Here Paul subsequently left Titus (Tit 1:5) "to ordain elders." Some have supposed that it was the original home of the Caphtorim (q.v.) or Philistines. -Easton Dictionary*
4. **Salmone**- means *clothed*
 - a. *The east point of the island of Crete. Act 27:7. It is a bold promontory, and is visible for a long distance. -Smith Dictionary*

8. Passing it with difficulty, we came to a place called Fair Havens, near the city of Lasea.

A. Passing it with difficulty,

1. **passing**- Gr. **paralegomai**- *to gather a course along; to sail by, coast along*
2. **difficulty**- Gr. **molis**
 - a. Because of the strong winds.

B. we came to a place called Fair Havens,

1. **came**- Gr. **erchomai**
2. **place**- Gr. **topos**
3. **called**- Gr. **kaleo**
4. **Fair Havens**- means *good ports*
 - a. *This was on the southeastern part of the island of Crete. It was probably not so much a harbor as an open roadstead,*

which afforded good anchorage for a time. It is called by Stephen, the geographer, "the fair shore." It still retains the name which it formerly had. It is called in ancient Dutch and French Sailing Directions "the beautiful bay." -Barnes Commentary

C. near the city of Lasea

1. **near-** Gr. **eggus**

2. **city-** Gr. **polis**

3. **Lasea-** means *shaggy*

a. *A city of Crete, the ruins of which were discovered in 1856, a few miles to the eastward of Fair Havens. -Smith Dictionary*

9. Now when much time had been spent, and sailing was now dangerous because the Fast was already over, Paul advised them,

A. Now when much time had been spent,

1. **much time-** Gr. **hikanos**

2. **spent-** Gr. **diaginomai-** *elapsed, passed meanwhile*

B. and sailing was now dangerous because the Fast was already over,

1. **sailing-** Gr. **ploos**

2. **dangerous-** Gr. **episphales-** *on the verge of falling, unsteady; met. insecure, hazardous, dangerous*

3. **Fast-** Gr. **nesteia**

a. *By the "fast" here is evidently intended the fast which occurred among the Jews on the great day of atonement. That was on the tenth of the month Tisri, which answers to a part of September and part of October. It was, therefore, the time of the autumnal equinox, and when the navigation of the Mediterranean was esteemed to be particularly dangerous, from the storms which usually occurred about that time. The ancients regarded this as a dangerous time to navigate the Mediterranean. -Barnes Commentary*

4. **over-** Gr. **parerchomai ede-** *to come near already*

C. Paul advised them

1. **advised-** Gr. **paraineo-** *advise or recommend publicly*

a. *Paul spoke to the captain, saying, "This is a bad time to be sailing." Now, although Paul was a tentmaker by trade, a rabbi by profession, and a prisoner by decree, the fact that he had*

been shipwrecked three times and had spent an entire day and night in the open ocean (2Co 11:25) qualified him to be able to give advice concerning the dangers of the sea. -Coursen
b. As this was about the time of the autumnal equinox, when the Mediterranean Sea was sufficiently tempestuous, we may suppose this feast alone to be intended. To sail after this feast was proverbially dangerous among the ancient Jews. -Clarke

10. saying, "Men, I perceive that this voyage will end with disaster and much loss, not only of the cargo and ship, but also our lives."

A. **saying-** Gr. **lego**

B. **Men-** Gr. **aner**

C. **I perceive that this voyage will end with disaster and much loss,**

1. **perceive-** Gr. **theoreo-** *to be a spectator, to gaze on, to perceive with the eyes*

a. By the use of this Greek word we can know that Paul came to this conclusion by looking at the natural weather and the ocean. This was not a spiritual perception. Those who were sailing the ship should have noticed the same thing Paul did. However, they were more motivated by money than safety.

2. **voyage-** Gr. **ploos-** *sailing*

3. **end-** Gr. **mello eis-** *about to be unto*

4. **disaster-** Gr. **hubris-** *hurt coming from insolence and arrogance*

a. This disaster would be directly tied to the arrogance if those in charge of the ship. They refused to listen to reason.

5. **loss-** Gr. **zemia**

D. **not only of the cargo and ship,**

1. **cargo-** Gr. **phortos-** *that which is carried*

2. **ship-** Gr. **ploion**

E. **but also our lives**

1. **lives-** Gr. **psuche-** *souls*

a. This word can mean the soul of man, or in general someone's life.

11. Nevertheless the centurion was more persuaded by the helmsman and the owner of the ship than by the things spoken by Paul.

A. **centurion-** Gr. **hekatontarches**

B. persuaded- Gr. **peitho**

1. The centurion was favorable to Paul, but did not think he knew what he was talking about in this situation.
2. Worldly people are not open to listen to a man of God, that is until things are hitting the fan! Then they seek him out!

C. helmsman- Gr. **kubernetes-** *steersman, helmsman, sailing master*

1. This is the ship's captain.

D. owner- Gr. **naukleros-** *one who hires out his vessel, or a portion of it, for purposes of transportation*

1. Because the ship was part of the imperial grain fleet there was a lot of money at stake to make this voyage with the cargo of grain.

E. ship- Gr. **ploion**

F. spoken- Gr. **lego**

12. And because the harbor was not suitable to winter in, the majority advised to set sail from there also, if by any means they could reach Phoenix, a harbor of Crete opening toward the southwest and northwest, *and winter there.*

A. And because the harbor was not suitable to winter in,

1. **harbor-** Gr. **limon**
2. **suitable-** Gr. **aneuthetos-** *not well set*
3. **winter-** Gr. **paracheimasia-** *stay with over the rainy season*

B. the majority advised to set sail from there also,

1. **majority-** Gr. **pleion**
 - a. Beware of being led by the majority because a majority of the time it is wrong!
 - b. Paul just had to sit back and shake his head knowing it would not end well.
 - c. Sometimes we are put into a bad situation by other people's decisions. However, if you will but yourself and your case in God's hands, He will take care of you. Wives in particular need to learn this.

2. **advised-** Gr. **tithemi boule-** *to place counsel*

3. **set sail-** Gr. **anago**

C. if by any means they could reach Phoenix,

1. **any means-** Gr. *more in quantity*
2. **reach-** Gr. **katantao**
3. **Phoenix-** means *palm tree, red*

a. *Ptolomy makes mention both of the city and haven of Phoenix, as on the south side of the island of Crete: and whereas it is here said to lie towards the south west and north west, this may be reconciled to that, as well as to itself; for the haven considered in general lay towards the south, but having its windings and turnings, with respect to them it lay towards both the south west and the north west, and so was a very commodious haven to winter in. -Gill*

D. a harbor of Crete opening toward the southwest and northwest,

1. **harbor-** Gr. **limen**
2. **opening-** Gr. **blepo-** *looking*
3. **southwest-** Gr. **lips-** *south wind*
4. **northwest-** Gr. **choros-** *north wind*

a. *The harbor was doubtless curved. Its entrance was in a southwest direction. It then turned so as to lie in a direction toward the northwest. It was thus rendered perfectly safe from the winds and heavy seas; and in that harbor they might pass the winter in security. -Barnes*

E. and winter there

1. **winter-** Gr. **paracheimazo-** *stay with over the rainy season*

a. *The sailors were impatient. Although it was not the season for sailing, these guys wanted to get on with their journey. The Word says, "He that believeth in the Lord must not make haste" (see [Isa 28:16](#)). Are you impatient? Slow down. When you don't know what to do—don't do anything. When you're not sure which way to go, stay where you are. Wait on the Lord. It's so hard to do, but so important. -Courson*

b. *The sailors took a vote. The centurion said, "Okay Paul, I hear what you're saying, but I also hear the owner, the captain, and the crew," and Paul was outvoted. God is not an American, folks, and if we make decisions relating to the kingdom on a democratic basis, we're in a heap of trouble. Ask Moses. If the Israelites had voted during their journey through the wilderness, he would have been ousted the first week. We need to know what the heart of God is—not what the majority says. -Courson*

c. *The sailors tested the winds. "The answer is blowing in the*

wind," may be true for Bob Dylan, but it's not true for you and me as believers. We're not to say, "The way the wind is blowing and circumstances are pointing will determine my course." No, there needs to be a solid inner conviction, a Holy Spirit direction. -Courson

d. The sailors sought ease. They wanted to get to Phoenix. Why? Phoenix was where all of the sailors wintered. There were lots of restaurants, movie theatres, golf courses. No doubt these guys thought, Why should we stay here? We're only sixty-eight miles from Phoenix. That's the place to be—we can even pick up a Suns game. Sometimes we, like these sailors, ask, "Where is it most comfortable? Where is it easiest?" instead of "What does the Lord know will be best for me?" -Courson

13. When the south wind blew softly, supposing that they had obtained *their* desire, putting out to sea, they sailed close by Crete.

A. When the south wind blew softly,

1. **south wind-** Gr. **notos**

2. **blew softly-** Gr. **hupopneo-** *a blowing of a breeze*

B. supposing that they had obtained their desire,

1. **supposing-** Gr. **dokeo-** *to seem*

a. Don't lean to your own understanding. Don't just go by outward looks. Follow the peace or lack of peace in your heart given by the Holy Spirit.

b. There is a way that seems good to man, but it ends in death.

[Pro 14:12](#)

2. **obtained-** Gr. **krateo-** *to have a firm hold on*

a. What we think we have a firm hold on, will slip out of our hands quickly when we trust in ourselves and our own reasonings.

3. **desire-** Gr. **prothesis-** *a setting forward, intention*

a. We can be led by our own intentions or by the Spirit of God. I have done both and highly recommend the latter.

C. putting out to sea,

1. **putting out-** Gr. **airo asson-** *to raise very near*

2. **sea-** not in Greek, omit

D. they sailed close by to Crete

1. sailed close- Gr. *paralegomai*- *to lay one's course near*

a. *A vessel that could sail within seven points of the wind would have no difficulty in rounding Cape Matala, which was a few miles off, west by south. And thence to Phoenix, within three hours' sail, the wind, if it remained the same, would be as favourable as possible.* Popular NT Commentary

14. But not long after, a tempestuous head wind arose, called Euroclydon.

A. But not long after,

1. long after- Gr. *polus meta*

B. a tempestuous head wind arose,

1. tempestuous- Gr. *tuphonikos*- *a prevailing hurricane or typhoon*

2. head wind- Gr. *anemos*- *wind*

3. arose- Gr. *ballo kata*- *to throw down upon*

a. This word means to thrown down upon. This is as if a demonic force was behind this and throwing the storm to sink Paul. The enemy can throw his best, but with God's protection you will not go down!

C. called Euroclydon

1. called- Gr. *kaleo*

2. Euroclydon- means *a violent agitation*

a. *This is an ancient term for an northeastern storm, a typhoon whirlwind or hurricane blowing in all directions.* -Dake

15. So when the ship was caught, and could not head into the wind, we let her drive.

A. So when the ship was caught,

1. ship- Gr. *ploion*

2. caught- Gr. *sunarpazo*- *to snatch together, to seize violently*

B. and could not head into the wind,

1. head- Gr. *antophthalmeo*- *to look in the face*

2. wind- Gr. *anemos*

C. we let her drive

1. drive- Gr. *epididomi phero*- *to give over to be carried*

a. They were at the mercy of the wind and waves to carry them where they blew them.

16. And running under *the shelter of* an island called **Clauda**, we secured the skiff with difficulty.

A. And running under the shelter of an island called **Clauda**,

1. **running under**- Gr. **hupotrecho**

2. **shelter**- Gr. not in Greek- omit

3. **island**- Gr. **nesion**

a. It was a practice in the day to find shelter from strong winds under the protection of islands. We have seen earlier this done a number of times in this chapter.

4. **called**- Gr. **kaleo**

5. **Clauda**- means *lame*

a. *Called also Gaudos; situated at the south-western extremity of the island of Crete, and now called Gozo.* -Clarke

B. we secured the skiff with difficulty

1. **secured**- Gr. **ginomai perikrates**- **become master over**

2. **skiff**- Gr. **skaphe**- *a hollowed out boat or vessel*

a. *Which they had with them to go ashore in, or to betake themselves to in case of shipwreck; and which in this storm was in danger of being dashed to pieces against the ship, or lost; and it was with some difficulty that they came at it, and took it up into the ship.* -Gill

3. **difficulty**- **ischuo molis**- *with force hardly*

a. Paul had already sensed this danger and warned of it. His warnings had gone unheeded.

17. When they had taken it on board, they used cables to undergird the ship; and fearing lest they should run aground on the Syrtis *Sands*, they struck sail and so were driven.

A. When they had taken it on board,

1. **taken**- Gr. **airo**- *to lift up*

2. **on board**- Gr. not in Greek- omit

B. they used cables to undergird the ship,

1. **cables**- Gr. **boetheia**- *means of help, e.g., ropes*

2. **undergird**- Gr. **hupozunnumi**- *to bind a ship together laterally: i.e. with girths or cables, to enable it to survive the force of waves and tempest*

3. **ship**- Gr. **ploion**

C. **and fearing lest they should run aground on the Syrtis Sands,**

1. **fearing**- Gr. **phobeo**

2. **run aground**- Gr. **ekpipto**- *to fall or drop away*

3. **Syrtis Sands**

a. *There were two celebrated syrtis, or quicksands, on the coast of Africa, called the greater and lesser. They were vast beds of sand driven up by the sea, and constantly shifting their position, so that it could not be known certainly where the danger was. As they were constantly changing their position, they could not be accurately laid down in a chart. The sailors were afraid, therefore, that they should be driven on one of those banks of sand, and thus be lost. -Barnes*

D. **they struck sail and so were driven**

1. **struck sail**- Gr. **chalao skeuos**- *to lower equipment*

a. It is unsure what was lowered- the sails or an anchor

2. **driven**- Gr. **phero**- *to be carried along*

18. **And because we were exceedingly tempest-tossed, the next *day* they lightened the ship.**

A. **And because we were exceedingly tempest-tossed,**

1. **exceedingly tempest-tossed**- Gr. **sphodros cheimazo**- *tossed with a tempest at a very high degree*

B. **the next day they lightened the ship**

1. **next day**- Gr. **hexes**

2. **lightened the ship**- Gr. **poieo exbole**- *made a throwing out*

a. It is not mentioned what this consisted of.

19. **On the third *day* we threw the ship's tackle overboard with our own hands.**

A. **third**- Gr. **tritos**

B. **threw**- Gr. **rhipto**- *to fling deliberately*

C. **ship's tackle**- Gr. **ploion skeue**

1. What this consisted of is unknown.

E. **hands**- Gr. **cheir**

20. **Now when neither sun nor stars appeared for many days, and no small tempest beat on *us*, all hope that we would be saved was finally given up.**

A. Now when neither sun nor stars appeared for many days

1. **sun-** Gr. **helios**
2. **stars-** Gr. **astron**
3. **appeared-** Gr. **epiphaino**
4. **days-** Gr. **hemera**

B. and no small tempest beat on us,

1. **small tempest-** Gr. **oligos cheimon-** *short or puny storm pouring rain*
2. **beat-** Gr. **epikeimi-** *to lay upon*
 - a. The storm sat upon them. There was no movement of the storm away from them. It was stationary for days over them.

C. all hope that we would be saved was finally given up

1. **hope-** Gr. **elpis**
2. **saved-** Gr. **sozo**
3. **given up-** Gr. **periaro-** *to remove from every side*
 - a. Every direction they looked they only saw ominous signs of their destruction- up, down, and all around.

21. But after long abstinence from food, then Paul stood in the midst of them and said, "Men, you should have listened to me, and not have sailed from Crete and incurred this disaster and loss.

A. But after long abstinence from food,

1. **long abstinence from food-** Gr. **polus asitia-** *much fasting*
 - a. This was not just to give himself to prayer, but the violent rocking of the boat incessantly made it almost impossible to eat. None of the other sailors ate during them time either. They would have been up-chucking as soon as they ate!

B. then Paul stood up in the midst of them and said,

1. **stood up-** Gr. **histemi-** *to stand*
2. **midst-** Gr. **mesos**
3. **said-** Gr. **epo**

C. Men- Gr. **aner**

D. you should have listened to me,

1. **listened-** Gr. **akouo**
 - a. Paul was a holy man of God, but he just could not resist saying- **I told you so!** This gives me hope!

E. and not have sailed from Crete and incurred this disaster and loss

1. **sailed**- Gr. **anago**- *to sail off*
2. **incurred**- Gr. **kerdaino**- *gained*
3. **disaster**- Gr. **hubris**- *damage resulting from pride*
4. **loss**- Gr. **zemia**

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

A. And now I urge to take heart,

1. **urge**- Gr. **paraineo**- *recommend or to give advice*
2. **take heart**- Gr. **euthumeo**- *to be of good cheer*

a. This is great advice! When you are in a storm in your life you need to cheer up. Paul said, "I recommend to you to cheer up!" God always wants to fill you with joy and peace in believing in each and every circumstance you face. [Rom. 15:13](#) The joy of the Lord is your strength. [Neh. 8:10](#) What are you going through right now? **I recommend that you to cheer up! To cheer up you must first look up!** Get your eyes on Jesus! He is the source of your joy.

b. A joyful heart is good for your health! [Pro 17:22](#)

B. for there will be no loss of life among you,

1. **loss**- Gr. **apobole**- *a throwing away*

a. God has got your back! Don't throw your life away living in fear, dread, and worry!

2. **life**- Gr. **psuche**- *soul*

a. Before one suffers loss in the natural they often suffer loss in their soul by doubt, worry, fear, discouragement, depression, anger, bitterness, etc.

C. but only of the ship

1. **ship**- Gr. **ploion**

a. I would rather suffer loss in the natural, than to suffer loss in my soul! If you keep your soul right, God will restore what the enemy stole in the natural!

23. For there stood by me this night an angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I serve,

A. stood- Gr. **histemi**

1. When no one is standing with you in the natural, you always have

the Lord and angelic help standing by you! [Act 23:11](#)

B. **night**- Gr. **nux**

C. **angel**- Gr. **aggelos**

D. **belong**- Gr. **eimi**- *I am*

E. **serve**- Gr. **latreuo**- *to render religious service and homage, worship, to perform sacred services*

1. Belonging to God and serving God are two different things. If you are born again you belong to God, but not all born again believers are serving God! Are you serving God, or do you just belong to Him?

24. **saying, 'Do not be afraid, Paul; you must be brought before Caesar; and indeed God has granted you all those who sail with you.'**

A. **saying**- Gr. **lego**

B. **Do not be afraid,**

1. **afraid**- Gr. **phobeo**

a. There was a great natural fear of the ship sinking and of drowning.

b. Paul was free from fear of dying because in [Acts 23](#) Paul already had the promise that he would bear witness for God in Rome. He had not done that yet.

c. We need to fight a good warfare of faith based on the prophecies that have been given to us by God. Paul knew he had to live in order to appear in Rome. This verse went on further and said he would stand before Caesar, not just appear in Rome.

C. **Paul**

D. **you must be brought before Caesar,**

1. **brought**- Gr. **paristemi**- *to be presented, to exhibit*

a. Paul would be presented to Nero and clearly exhibit the gospel before his view. This would be a fulfillment of prophecy that was spoken when Paul was converted. God said he would be sent to bear witness to kings. He had already witnessed to King Agrippa.

2. **Caesar**

E. **and indeed God has granted you all those who sail with you**

1. **granted**- Gr. **charizomai**- *to be graciously given*

a. This means Paul had prayed for all their lives to be spared!

Wow, this shows the love of God in Paul! He could have just believed for himself to be spared and then he could have gone free. No, he asked God that all their lives would be spared, even though it meant he continued imprisonment. Paul did not want a single one of those men to die in their sins but that they would be spared and possibly given their lives to Christ.
b. God had graciously given Paul his request.

2. **sail-** Gr. **pleo**

a. all that sail with you... God saw Paul as the captain of the ship!

25. Therefore take heart, men, for I believe God that it will be just as it was told me.

A. Therefor take heart,

1. **take heart-** Gr. *to be of good cheer*

B. men- Gr. **aner**

C. for I believe God that it will be just as it was told me

1. **believe-** Gr. **pisteuo**

a. [2Ti 1:12](#)- Paul was fully persuaded that what God had promised He was able to do.

2. **just-** Gr. **kata hos tropos-** *according to the way*

3. **told-** Gr. **laleo-** *spoken*

a. When you believe things will be just as the way it was told you in God's Word, then you will have good cheer. There is no such thing as depressed believing!

b. [Rom. 15:13](#)- believing brings joy and peace.

c. What is your joy level telling you about your believing right now?

d. Read the back of the book- WE WIN! YOU WIN!

26. However, we must run aground on a certain island."

A. However,

1. God promise is guaranteed, but your complete comfort while that is being fulfilled is not. We will all go through difficult circumstances in this life.

B. we must run aground on a certain island

1. **run aground-** Gr. **ekpipto-** *to fall out*

2. **certain island-** Gr. **tis nesos**

a. It will be the island of Malta.

27. **Now when the fourteenth night had come, as we were driven up and down in the Adriatic *Sea*, about midnight the sailors sensed that they were drawing near some land.**

A. Now when the fourteenth night had come,

1. **fourteenth night-** *tessaeskaidektos nux*

2. **come-** Gr. *ginomai*

B. as we were driven up and down in the Adriatic Sea,

1. **driven-** Gr. *diaphero-* *to be carried in different directions*

2. **Adriatic**

a. *This sea is situated between Italy and Dalmatia, now called the Adriatic Gulf. But among the ancients the name was given not only to that gulf, but to the whole sea lying between Greece, Italy, and Africa, including the Sicilian and Ionian Sea.* - Barnes

C. about midnight the sailors sensed they were drawing near some land

1. **midnight-** Gr. *mesos nux*

a. It is at midnight that God loves to come through for us! [Acts 16:25](#)

b. There are miracles at midnight. The Israelites were delivered at midnight. [Ex. 12:29](#)

c. Paul and the sailors were in the storm for many days with no natural hope of surviving but the breakthrough came at midnight!

2. **sailors-** Gr. *nautes*

3. **sensed-** *huponoeo-* *to suspect, to suppose*

a. They probably heard the sound of distant breakers hitting land.

4. **drawing near-** Gr. *prosago-* *to approach*

5. **land-** Gr. *chora-* *a region or country*

28. **So they took soundings and found twenty fathoms, and a little farther on they sounded again and found fifteen fathoms.**

A. So they took soundings and found twenty fathoms,

1. **took soundings-** Gr. *bolizo-* *to cast or let down a line and plummet*

in order to test the depth of water, to sound, fathom

2. **found**- Gr. **heurisko**

3. **twenty fathoms**- Gr. **eikosi orguia**

B. and a little farther on they sounded again and found fifteen fathoms.

1. **little farther**- Gr. **diistemi brachus**

2. **sounded**- Gr. **bolizo**

3. **found**- Gr. **heurisko**

4. **fifteen fathoms**- Gr. **dekapente orguia**

a. The sea was getting more shallow as they went which showed they were nearing land.

29. Then, fearing lest we should run aground on the rocks, they dropped four anchors from the stern, and prayed for day to come.

A. Then,

B. fearing lest we should run aground on the rocks,

1. **fearing**- Gr. **phobeo**

2. **run aground**- Gr. **ekpipto**

3. **rocks**- Gr. **trachus topos**- *a jagged spot*

C. they dropped four anchors from the stern,

1. **dropped**- Gr. **rhipto**

2. **four anchors**- Gr. **tessares agura**

3. **stern**- Gr. **prumna**

a. *The ordinary way was to cast the anchor, as now, from the bow: but ancient ships, built with both ends alike, were fitted with hawseholes in the stern, so that in case of need they could anchor either way. And when the fear was, as here, that they might fall on the rocks to leeward, and the intention was to run the ship ashore as soon as daylight enabled them to fix upon a safe spot, the very best thing they could do was to anchor by the stern. -Smith*

D. and prayed for day to come

1. **prayed**- Gr. **euchomai**- *wishful prayer*

a. The sailors prayed! When it looks like people are going to die, even atheists will pray!

b. Atheists will pray in foxholes when the bombs start dropping.

2. **day**- Gr. **hemera**

3. **come-** Gr. **ginomai**

30. **And as the sailors were seeking to escape from the ship, when they had let down the skiff into the sea, under pretense of putting out anchors from the prow,**

A. **And as the sailors were seeking to escape from the ship,**

1. **sailors-** Gr. **nautes**
2. **seeking-** Gr. **zeteo**
3. **escape-** Gr. **pheugo**
4. **ship-** Gr. **ploion**

B. **when they had let down the skiff into the sea,**

1. **let down-** Gr. **chalao-** *to lower into a void*
2. **skiff-** Gr. **skaphe**

a. This was a smaller boat carried on the ship to row to land. The larger vessel would be anchored off shore.

3. **sea-** Gr. **thallasa**

C. **under pretense of putting out anchors from the prow**

1. **pretense-** Gr. **prophasis-** *outward show*

a. The professional sailors where pretending to take anchors on the small boat to anchor them further ahead, but actually they were just going to abandon the ship, the prisoners, and the soldiers and save themselves and head for the shore leaving the prisoners and rest to fend for themselves. The unregenerate heart of man is evil.

b. This is so common with people. They give up on praying and take matters into their own hands when they don't see immediate results from their prayers. This never works out well.

2. **putting out-** Gr. **ekteino**
3. **anchors-** Gr. **agkura**
4. **prow-** Gr. **prora-** *forward part of the ship*

31. **Paul said to the centurion and the soldiers, "Unless these men stay in the ship, you cannot be saved."**

A. **Paul said to the centurion and the soldiers,**

1. **said-** Gr. **epo**
2. **centurion-** Gr. **hekatontarches**

3. **soldiers-** Gr. **stratiotes**

B. **Unless these men stay in the ship,**

1. **men-** Gr. **not in Greek-** *omit*

2. **stay-** Gr. **meno**

3. **ship-** Gr. **ploion**

C. **you cannot be saved**

1. **saved-** Gr. **sozo**

a. The sailors were the only ones who knew how to maneuver and guide the ship. Without them, those left on the ship would perish.

b. Paul knew the intentions of the sailors by the gift of the word of knowledge. There was no other way for him to have known their true intentions.

c. I think a spiritual lesson can be learned. We often want to jump ship instead of trusting God. Don't jump ship! God has a plan for your deliverance!

32. **Then the soldiers cut away the ropes of the skiff and let it fall off.**

A. **soldiers-** Gr. **stratiotes**

1. The centurion and soldiers had learned the hard way that Paul indeed heard from God and he was to be listened to above anyone else on the ship. They would have not been in this situation to start with if they had listened to Paul about not sailing.

B. **cut away-** Gr. **apokopto**

1. The soldiers believing Paul cut the ropes of the small boat before the sailors could board it and let it fall away. I am sure this was to the dismay of the sailors seeking to escape.

C. **ropes-** Gr. **schoinion-** *a cord made of rushes; genr. a rope, cord*

D. **skiff-** Gr. **skaphe**

E. **fall off-** Gr. **ekpipto**

33. **And as day was about to dawn, Paul implored *them* all to take food, saying, "Today is the fourteenth day you have waited and continued without food, and eaten nothing.**

A. **And as day was about to dawn,**

1. **day-** Gr. **hemera**

2. **dawn-** Gr. **ginomai-** *coming*

B. Paul implored them all to take food,

1. **implored-** Gr. **parakaleo**

2. **take food-** Gr. **metalambano trophe-** *to partake in nourishment*

C. saying- Gr. **lego**

D. Today is the fourteenth day you have waited and continued without food,

1. **today-** Gr. **hemera**

2. **waited-** Gr. **prosdakao-** *watch with anticipation*

3. **continued-** Gr. **diateleo-** *to persist to the present*

E. and eaten nothing

1. **eaten-** Gr. **asitos proslambano-** *taken no food*

a. They had been fasting for two weeks during which they exerted much labor and energy fighting the storm. They needed to build back up their strength.

b. *They probably had not eaten due to a combination of fear, forced rationing, fasting, seasickness, and preoccupation with just surviving the storm. -Life Application*

34. Therefore I urge you to take nourishment, for this is for your survival, since not a hair will fall from the head of any of you."

A. Therefore I urge you to take nourishment,

1. **urge-** Gr. **parakaleo**

2. **take nourishment-** Gr. **proslambano trophe**

a. Notice, Paul was encouraging them to do something in the natural. This was for their salvation. There are spiritual things we are to believe, and natural things we are to do. The natural and spiritual work together. We have a part to play in the natural. We are not just a spirit. We have a soul and body. We need to take care of our natural body. We need to sleep. We need to eat. We need to rest. If we don't, our spirit will be invited to leave this earth! Our body is our right to remain on this natural earth.

B. for this is for your survival,

1. **survival-** Gr. **soteria-** *salvation*

a. This is not speaking of spiritual or eternal salvation, but their natural lives.

C. since not a hair will fall from the head of any of you

1. **hair-** Gr. **thrix**
2. **fall-** Gr. **pipto**
3. **head-** Gr. **kephale**

a. Paul dared to say this because this was what was spoken to him by God's angel. This was God's message to Paul but it needed to be spoken by Paul over his situation. This is so important. We need to speak out over our lives what God has spoken over us! God will not speak directly to your life. He has given you authority on earth. He can't just come down and speak to your circumstances. It is up to you to speak what God has spoken to you and over you! Here Paul was prophesying the future God had given him. We need to do the same!

35. And when he had said these things, he took bread and gave thanks to God in the presence of them all; and when he had broken *it* he began to eat.

A. And when he had said these things,

1. **said-** Gr. **epo**

B. he took bread and gave thanks to God in the presence of them all,

1. **bread-** Gr. **artos**
2. **gave thanks-** Gr. **eucharisteo**

a. The word charis- grace is at the root of this Greek word to give thanks. We give thanks for the grace received. Thankfulness is the by-product of processed grace in the heart of a person. An unthankful person is one that does not receive or walk in grace.

b. Our food is sanctified by the Word of God and thankful prayer.

c. No food is off the table if it is received with thanksgiving.

[1Ti 4:4](#)

3. **presence-** Gr. **enopion**

C. and when he had broken it he began to eat

1. **broken-** Gr. **klao**
2. **eat-** Gr. **esthio**

a. Paul took the lead and started eating. The others followed. It is time for the man or woman of God to take the leadership today for others to follow.

36. Then they were all encouraged, and also took food themselves.

A. Then they were all encouraged,

1. **encouraged-** Gr. **euthumos-** *meaning of good cheer, cheerful or having the proper positive and hopeful attitude*

a. People can and will be impacted by our example. We can either encourage others or discourage them. What impact are you making to those around you? How are you letting other people's example impact you? Only follow good examples.

B. and also took food themselves

1. **took food-** Gr. **proslambano trophe-** *took nourishment*

a. Most people are waiting to be led by someone who knows what to do. As a Christian we are called to set the example and path for others.

37. And in all we were two hundred and seventy-six persons on the ship.

A. persons- Gr. **psuche-** souls

1. Paul had a nice sized congregation at this point!

2. They all were looking to Paul for leadership.

B. ship- Gr. **ploion**

38. So when they had eaten enough, they lightened the ship and threw out the wheat into the sea.

A. So when they had eaten enough,

1. **eaten enough-** Gr. **korennumi trophe-** *to cram, that is, glut or sate with food*

a. They stuffed themselves with all they could fit in their stomachs! They did not know when they would eat again.

B. they lightened the ship and threw out the wheat into the sea

1. **lightened-** Gr. **kouphizo**

2. **ship-** Gr. **ploion**

3. **threw out-** Gr. **ekballo**

4. **wheat-** Gr. **sitos**

a. The wheat was for food but also for sale where they were going. This was lost to the sea.

5. **sea-** Gr. **thalassa**

39. When it was day, they did not recognize the land; but they observed a bay

with a beach, onto which they planned to run the ship if possible.

A. When it was day,

1. day- Gr. *hemera*

B. they did not recognize the land,

1. recognize- Gr. *epiginosko*- *to fully know, to know accurately*

2. land- Gr. *ge*

C. but they observed a bay with a beach,

1. observed- Gr. *kataneo*- *to observe fully*

2. bay- Gr. *kolpos*- *bosom, a place to be received on land, bay*

a. *A neck of land perhaps on either side, running out into the sea, and this little bay or gulf between them; though some think it was a tongue of land, running out into the sea, having the sea on both sides, at the point of which these two seas met, [Act 27:41](#). There is such a place as this in the island of Malta, where, tradition says, Paul was shipwrecked; and which is called *la Cale de St. Paul*. -Clarke*

3. beach- Gr. *aigialos*- *where waves dash, beach*

D. onto which they planned to run the ship if possible

1. planned- Gr. *bouleuo*

2. run- Gr. *exotheo*- *push, propel*

3. ship- Gr. *ploion*

40. And they let go the anchors and left *them* in the sea, meanwhile loosing the rudder ropes; and they hoisted the mainsail to the wind and made for shore.

A. And they let go the anchors and left them in the sea,

1. let go- Gr. *periaireo*- *to take away entirely*

2. anchors- Gr. *agkura*

3. left- Gr. *eao*- *let be*

4. sea- Gr. *thalassa*

B. meanwhile loosing the rudder ropes,

1. loosing- Gr. *aniemi*

2. rudder ropes- Gr. *pedalion zeukteria*

a. *The bands mentioned here were probably the cords or fastenings by which the rudder could be made secure to the sides of the ship, or could be raised up out of the water in a violent storm, to prevent its being carried away. And as, in the tempest, the rudders had become useless [Act 27:15](#),*

Act 27:17, they were probably either raised out of the water, or made fast. Now that the storm was past, and they could be used again, they were loosed, and they endeavored to direct the vessel into port. -Barnes

C. and they hoisted the mainsail to the wind and made for shore

1. **hoisted**- Gr. **epairo**- *to lift up*

2. **mainsail**- Gr. **artemon**

a. *Not the mainsail, (which would have been quite improper on such an occasion), but the jib, or triangular sail which is suspended from the foremast to the bowsprit; with this they might hope both to steer and carry in the ship. -Clarke*

b. *The mainsail had already been discarded.*

3. **wind**- Gr. **pneo**- *strong breeze*

4. **made**- Gr. **katecho**- *held steady*

5. **shore**- Gr. **aigialos**

41. But striking a place where two seas met, they ran the ship aground; and the prow stuck fast and remained immovable, but the stern was being broken up by the violence of the waves.

A. But striking a place where two seas met,

1. **striking**- Gr. **peripto**- *to fall into as to be encompassed*

2. **place**- Gr. **topos**

3. **two seas**- Gr. **dithalassos**

a. *An "isthmus", on each side of which the sea ran; and which the inhabitants of Malta, as Beza says, show to this day, and call it, "la Cala de San Paulo", or the Descent of Saint Paul. The meeting of these two seas might occasion a great rippling in the sea like to a large eddy, or counter tide. -Gill*

B. they ran the ship aground

1. **ran**- Gr. **epokello**- *to drive upon, strike against*

2. **ship**- Gr. **ploion**

3. **aground**- Gr. **naus**

C. The prow stuck fast and remained immovable,

1. **prow**- Gr. **prora**

a. *The front of the ship.*

2. **stuck fast**- Gr. **ereido**

a. *They were stuck between a rock and a hard place!*

3. **immovable**- Gr. **asaleutos**

D. **but the stern was being broken up by the violence of the waves**

1. **stern**- Gr. **prumna**

a. The backside of the ship.

2. **broken up**- Gr. **luo**- *to loosen*

3. **violence**- Gr. **bia**

4. **waves**- Gr. **kuma**

42. **And the soldiers' plan was to kill the prisoners, lest any of them should swim away and escape.**

A. **And the soldiers' plan was to kill the prisoners,**

1. **soldiers**- Gr. **stratiotes**

2. **plan**- Gr. **boule**

3. **kill**- Gr. **apokteino**

4. **prisoners**- Gr. **desmotes**

a. *The soldiers would pay with their own lives if any of their prisoners escaped. Their instinctive reaction was to kill the prisoners so they wouldn't get away. -Life Application*

B. **lest any of them should swim away and escape**

1. **swim away**- Gr. **ekkolumbao**- *to swim out*

2. **escape**- Gr. **diapheugo**- *to flee through*

43. **But the centurion, wanting to save Paul, kept them from *their* purpose, and commanded that those who could swim should jump *overboard* first and get to land,**

A. **But the centurion,**

1. **centurion**- Gr. **hekatontarches**

B. **wanting to save Paul,**

1. **wanting**- Gr. **boulomai**

2. **save**- Gr. **diasozo**

a. Paul had divine favor with the centurion. Glory to God for his favor He gives us with those who can and will help us in this life. Are you actively believing for favor with God and man?

[Prov. 3:4](#)

b. This centurion I believe had reason to give Paul favor. He had seen his godly deportment and how he had actually heard from God and was correct in all he had said. I believe this

centurion became a believer due to what he had witnessed and was going to witness from Paul's ministry on the island.
c. The prisoners should have been very thankful to have Paul among them because if he wasn't they would have all been killed. Paul was not only spared but all the prisoners with him. Our deliverance is not just for us but for many around us as well!

C. kept them from their purpose,

1. **kept-** Gr. **koluo**
2. **purpose-** Gr. **boulema**

D. and commanded that those who could swim should jump overboard first and get to land

1. **commanded-** Gr. **keleuo**
2. **swim-** Gr. **kolumbao**
 - a. It is not mentioned if Paul could swim or not. He might have drifted to shore on a piece of the ship if he couldn't.
3. **jump overboard-** Gr. **aporrhipto-** *to hurl off*
4. **land-** Gr. **ge**

44. and the rest, some on boards and some on *parts* of the ship. And so it was that they all escaped safely to land.

A. and the rest,

1. **rest-** Gr. **loipoi**
 - a. The rest who could not swim.

B. some on boards and some on parts of the ship

1. **boards-** Gr. **sanis**
2. **parts-** Gr. **tis-** *some*
3. **ship-** Gr. **ploion**

C. And so it was that they all escaped safely to land

1. **escaped safely-** Gr. **diasozo-** *to save thoroughly or completely*
 - a. This was the fulfillment of what the angel had told Paul.
2. **land-** Gr. **ge**