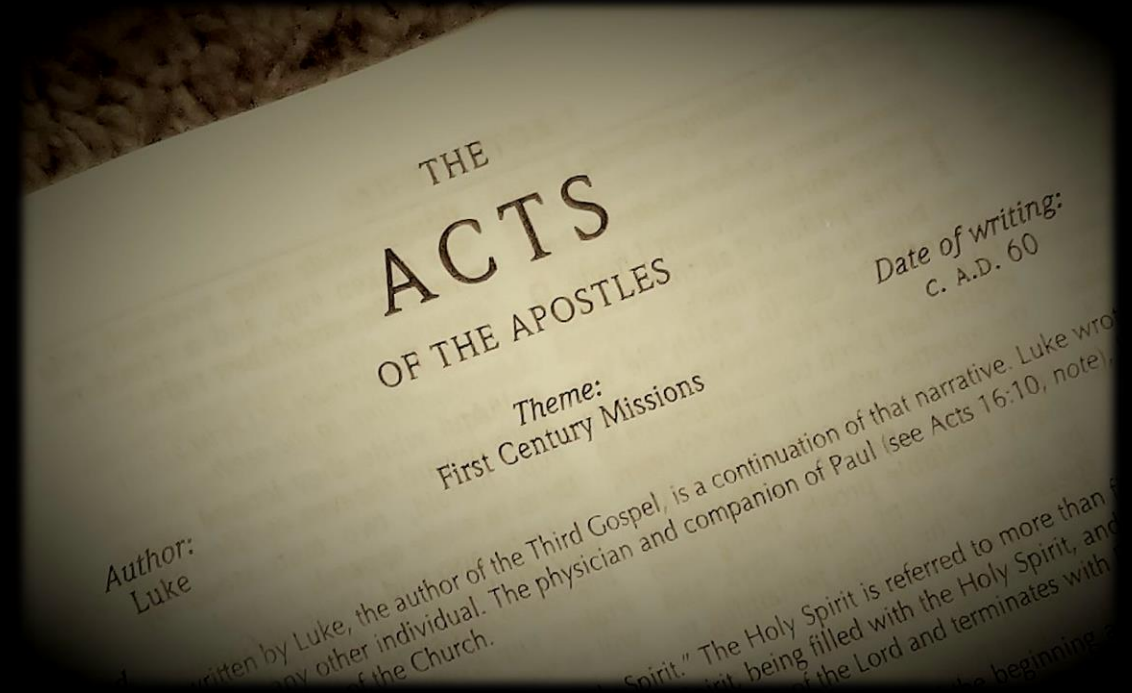


# Verse by Verse

## Acts 27



# Previously in Acts

## Previously in Acts

- Acts 1:8 (ESV)

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.

## Previously in Acts

- The gospel has expanded just as Jesus said in Acts 1:8.
- Still, after several mission trips, Paul has been in Roman custody for over two years.
- When he appeared before Roman Governors and King Herod Agrippa II, he shared his faith.
- Rather than face a trial in Jerusalem, as a Roman citizen, he appealed to Caesar.

# Acts 27 Introduction

## Acts 27 Introduction

- For the rest of Acts, our author Luke will take us along with Paul on their voyage to Rome.
- God assures Paul that he will appear before Caesar at the end of the trip.
- There will, however, be some difficulties for our travelers along the way.

# Acts 27    Key Verses

## Acts 27    Key Verses

- Acts 27:23-25 (ESV)

<sup>23</sup> For this very night there stood before me an angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I worship, <sup>24</sup> and he said, ‘Do not be afraid, Paul; you must stand before Caesar. And behold, God has granted you all those who sail with you.’ <sup>25</sup> So take heart, men, for I have faith in God that it will be exactly as I have been told.



# Acts 27 Outline

# Acts 27    Outline

- |    |                       |          |
|----|-----------------------|----------|
| 1. | The Voyage Begins     | 27:1-8   |
| 2. | Paul's Advice         | 27:9-12  |
| 3. | The Storm at Sea      | 27:13-20 |
| 4. | Paul's Encouragement  | 27:21-26 |
| 5. | The Sailors' Fear     | 27:27-32 |
| 6. | A Meal at Sea         | 27:33-38 |
| 7. | The Ship Runs Aground | 27:39-44 |

# 1. The Voyage Begins     Acts 27:1-8

## 1. The Voyage Begins     Acts 27:1-8

- 27:1 we should sail for Italy     Luke is back with Paul.
- Many ships heading to Italy in those days carried a cargo of wheat from Egypt.
- This was probably one of those, since wheat was their cargo (See v. 38)

# 1. The Voyage Begins     Acts 27:1-8

- 27:2     Aristarchus     He appeared in Acts 19 & 20
- Colossians 4:10     Aristarchus my fellow prisoner
- Philemon 24     Mark, Aristarchus, Demas, and Luke, my fellow workers.

# 1. The Voyage Begins      Acts 27:1-8



<https://www.atotheword.com/bible-studies/the-book-of-acts/pauls-trip-to-rome/>

## 2. Paul's Advice     Acts 27:9-12

## 2. Paul's Advice     Acts 27:9-12

- 27:9    the Fast   *Yom Kippur*   The Day of Atonement
- The holiest of the fall holidays – sometimes it occurs well into October.



## 2. Paul's Advice     Acts 27:9-12

### The Limits of Human Wisdom

- 27:11    The centurion had the final authority.
- The pilot and the owner of the ship were the experts.
- 27:12    The harbor was not suitable, pushing the group toward a making a decision.
- The majority decided to put out to sea.

## 2. Paul's Advice     Acts 27:9-12

### The Limits of Human Wisdom

- Psalm 111:10 (ESV)

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;  
all those who practice it have a good understanding.  
His praise endures forever!

## 2. Paul's Advice     Acts 27:9-12

### The Limits of Human Wisdom

- Proverbs 1:7 (ESV)

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge;  
fools despise wisdom and instruction.

## 2. Paul's Advice     Acts 27:9-12

### The Limits of Human Wisdom

- Proverbs 9:10 (ESV)

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom,  
and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight.

## 2. Paul's Advice     Acts 27:9-12

### The Limits of Human Wisdom

- Paul did not have any **authority** in this situation.
- He was not a **recognized expert** in this situation.
- He did not have **the majority** on his side.
- Whether led by the Holy Spirit or using sanctified common sense, **Paul's view was closest to the truth.**

### 3. The Storm at Sea    Acts 27:13-20

### 3. The Storm at Sea     Acts 27:13-20

- Remember Luke 8:22-25?

<sup>22</sup> One day he got into a boat with his disciples, and he said to them, “Let us go across to the other side of the lake.” So they set out, <sup>23</sup> and as they sailed he fell asleep. And a windstorm came down on the lake, and they were filling with water and were in danger. <sup>24</sup> And they went and woke him, saying, ...

### 3. The Storm at Sea     Acts 27:13-20

- Remember Luke 8:22-25?

“Master, Master, we are perishing!” And he awoke and rebuked the wind and the raging waves, and they ceased, and there was a calm. <sup>25</sup> He said to them, “Where is your faith?” And they were afraid, and they marveled, saying to one another, “Who then is this, that he commands even winds and water, and they obey him?”



### 3. The Storm at Sea     Acts 27:13-20

*Though Christ can still the storm, we can have the courage to face it when he does not, for we know that through the crisis God's sovereignty will work out something good (Rom. 8:28). We live under God's promises, and these promises brace us to face the challenge.*

*– Ajith Fernando,  
Youth for Christ, Sri Lanka*



### 3. The Storm at Sea     Acts 27:13-20

- Sometimes Jesus calms the storm.
- And sometimes he doesn't.
- Please trust him either way.
- It is safe to say Paul spent a lot of time praying during this voyage – which brings us to the next section.

## 4. Paul's Encouragement     Acts 27:21-26

## 4. Paul's Encouragement     Acts 27:21-26

- 27:21    without food    They were probably seasick.
- 27:22    no loss of life
- 27:24    God has granted you all ... who sail with you.  
Perhaps in response to Paul's prayers?

## 4. Paul's Encouragement     Acts 27:21-26

- 27:25     I have faith in God that it will be exactly as I have been told.
- Paul's confidence has grown since back in 27:10.

## 4. Paul's Encouragement     Acts 27:21-26

- Philippians 4:6-7 (ESV)

<sup>6</sup> Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup> And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

## 5. The Sailors' Fear     Acts 27:27-32

## 5. The Sailors' Fear     Acts 27:27-32

- 27:27    Adriatic Sea    The name for the north central Mediterranean Sea in those days – but different now.
- 27:28    twenty fathoms    120 feet
- fifteen fathoms    90 feet
- 27:29    four anchors from the stern    This would at least keep the ship pointing forward until it stopped.



## 5. The Sailors' Fear     Acts 27:27-32

- 27:31     Paul said ... “Unless these men stay in the ship, you cannot be saved.”
- Didn't God just give Paul a promise that there would be no loss of life?

## 5. The Sailors' Fear     Acts 27:27-32

- 27:31     Paul said ... “Unless these men stay in the ship, you cannot be saved.”
- It is easy to reconcile how God's sovereignty and human responsibility work together.
- Beware of overly simplistic answers to that question.
- And if you want to be saved, “stay in the ship.”

## 6. A Meal at Sea     Acts 27:33-38

## 6. A Meal at Sea     Acts 27:33-38

- Paul's Authority has grown.
- Earlier in the voyage they ignored Paul's opinions.
- Now he almost seems to be the captain of the ship.
- For those on board who were believers, this would seem a lot like communion or a fellowship meal.
- (By the way 276 persons is not too high a number.)

## 7. The Ship Runs Aground      Acts 27:39-44

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<https://www.atotheword.com/bible-studies/the-book-of-acts/pauls-trip-to-rome/>

## 7. The Ship Runs Aground      Acts 27:39-44



St. Paul's Bay,  
Malta

[https://holylandphotos  
.wordpress.com/2019/  
07/10/saint-pauls-  
islands-shipwreck-on-  
malta-part-2/](https://holylandphotos.wordpress.com/2019/07/10/saint-pauls-islands-shipwreck-on-malta-part-2/)

## 7. The Ship Runs Aground     Acts 27:39-44

- 27:44     all were brought safely to land.
- So far, so good.
- We will finish Acts next week.



## 7. The Ship Runs Aground      Acts 27:39-44



*As we go through difficult experiences in our lives; when all seems to be dark and we despair of ever getting out of it, God's hand is at work. One day, looking back on all of the difficult experiences, you will see how God was guiding and preparing you the entire time.*

*– Chuck Smith (1927 – 1913)  
Calvary Chapel Costa Mesa*

# Acts 27    What We Just Read

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# Acts 27      Key Points

# Acts 27    Key Points

Reasons to trust Jesus from Acts 27:

1. Human wisdom is limited; true wisdom starts with the fear of God.
2. Jesus has the ability to calm the storms we face.
3. He knows what he is doing when he lets them rage.
4. Paul's confidence and leadership grew during the storm – this was not true for all of the sailors.

## Acts 27    Key Points

Reasons to trust Jesus from Acts 27:

5. We can't be saved unless we *stay in the ship*.
6. In other words, only Jesus saves, so we dare not go anywhere or to anyone else.
7. In the end we will be able to see what God was doing all along.



## Acts 27    Key Points

Spiritual growth comes with spiritual growing pains –  
so don't expect one without the other.

# Acts 27    A Prayer

## Acts 27    A Prayer

- Our Father in heaven,
- We thank you for this record of the life and ministry of the Apostle Paul and the rest of the early church.
- Thank you for including so many of their experiences both good and bad, easy and difficult.
- We trust that you are at work supernaturally even when we cannot see exactly what you are doing.

## Acts 27    A Prayer

- Help us to trust you in the midst of the difficulties we face, because we know that through them you are helping us to grow in our faith.
- We look forward to the day when we will see Jesus face to face and we will know you, our God and Savior more completely than we can here and now.
- In Christ,
- Amen

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