



WORK OF THE SPIRIT

Acts Chapter 27

Lesson 21

FIRST DAY: Review and Overview

1. How does Paul's example in Acts Chapters 25 and 26 minister to you?
2. Everyone at one time has experienced storms. These are the times when elements out of our control seem to be driving our lives toward certain calamity. Storms can be financial set backs, personal or relational upheavals, health issues, or any other threat that jeopardizes our lives. Paul experienced a tremendous storm that lasted for weeks. As a prisoner he had little influence and no control over the direction of the ship. It was in the midst of this terrifying storm that God sent an angel to assure him that he would not only survive, but also appear before Caesar.

Whatever storm you are in, or will experience, God has sent a message in His Word that you will come through it: *He shall call upon Me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him and honor him* (Psalm 91:15). As you read Acts 27 note the intensity of this storm and God's faithful word to Paul. Provide a title for each section below:

- a. Acts 27:1-12
 - b. Acts 27:13-26
 - c. Acts 27:27-38
 - d. Acts 27:39-44
3. Write a prayer asking God to strengthen your faith and heart by the study of His Word.

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

Acts 27:25

SECOND DAY: Read Acts 27:1-12

1. After Paul's appearance before Festus and Agrippa, *it was decided* that he should be sent to Caesar in Rome. *Paul and some other prisoners* were placed in custody with a *centurion* named Julius and prepared to sail (Acts 27:1). Note their travel plans from Acts 27:2-3a.
 - a. The pronoun *us* used in Acts 27:2 denotes Luke's presence with Paul. Who else was accompanying him?
 - (1) Use Acts 19:29, Colossians 4:10, and Philemon 1:24 to comment on this companion.
 - (a) Why do you think this would have blessed Paul?
2. What do you find interesting about Julius' treatment of Paul in Acts 27:3b? See also Psalm 5:12.
3. Use Acts 27:4-8 to summarize their journey, underscoring the travel conditions.
4. The *Fast* referred to in Acts 27:9 was Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement. It took place mid-October, when sailing became treacherous on the Mediterranean Sea. With this in mind, how did Paul advise the men? Acts 27:10
5. *Nevertheless*, by whom was the centurion *more persuaded*? Acts 27:11
 - a. Why do you think Paul's advice was ignored?
6. Use Acts 27:12 to describe the rationale of the *majority*.
7. As Christians we often *perceive* what the *majority* cannot. Share a way you see this happening today.

THIRD DAY: Read Acts 27:13–26

1. When those on the ship saw that *the south wind blew softly*, what did they suppose? Acts 27:13a
 - a. Therefore, what was their decision? Acts 27:13b
2. From Acts 27:14–18 briefly comment on what happened as a result of their decision.
3. Use Acts 27:19–20 to capture the desperation of their situation.
4. When did Paul address his shipmates? Acts 27:21a
 - a. Comment on where Paul was as he addressed these men. Acts 27:21b
 - b. What had they *incurred* by not listening to Paul? Acts 27:21c
5. What did Paul *urge* them to do? Acts 27:22a
 - a. Why were they to do this? Acts 27:22b
6. Describe Paul's encounter that *night*. Acts 27:23a
 - a. How did Paul refer to God? Acts 27:23b
7. What message did God give to Paul? Acts 27:24
 - a. Why do you think God sent him this message?
8. From Acts 27:25 print Paul's confidence.
 - a. Share a promise you received that you *believe God* for.
9. Comment on the *however* of God's promise. Acts 27:26
10. Why do you think Paul was able to confidently address his shipmates?

FOURTH DAY: Read Acts 27:27-38

1. Describe what took place following Paul's speech. Acts 27:27-29
 - a. What do you find interesting about what they did after *they dropped four anchors*? Acts 27:29b

2. According to Acts 27:30, how did the experienced *sailors* try to *escape*?
 - a. What warning did Paul give *the centurion and the soldiers*? Acts 27:31
 - (1) How did they respond? Acts 27:32
 - (a) Contrast their response with that of Acts 27:10-11. What do you see?

3. From Acts 27:33-34 remark on Paul's exhortation to those on the ship.

4. What do you find significant about Paul's actions in Acts 27:35?
 - a. Observe their response in Acts 27:36. What do you find noteworthy about this?

5. In Acts 27:37 Luke noted that there *were two hundred and seventy-six persons on the ship*. What happened after all these *had eaten enough*? Acts 27:38

6. How do you see God working in this storm?
 - a. How does this minister to you concerning the storms in your life?

FIFTH DAY: Read Acts 27:39–44

1. What happened *when it was day*? Acts 27:39

2. Remark on how *they ran the ship aground*. Acts 27:40–41
 - a. What does this suggest about the attitude of the sailors?

3. What was *the soldiers' plan*? Acts 27:42
 - a. How did the *centurion* intervene? Acts 27:43
 - (1) How do you see God at work in this?

4. How did everyone come *safely to land*? Acts 27:44

5. Compare the outcome of this storm with those in:
 - a. Jonah 1:4–16

 - b. Luke 8:22–25
 - (1) What do you desire the outcome of your storm to be?

SIXTH DAY: Review

1. Review Acts 27 to note how the Spirit was at work through:

a. the *centurion* (verses 3, 31–32, 42–43)

b. Paul (verses 9–10, 21–26, 33–36)

c. the storm (verses 13–20, 27–29, 39–44)

2. God promised Paul in Acts 23:11 that he would *bear witness at Rome*. From your study, how do you see God at work fulfilling this promise?

a. Share a way this encourages you.

And when he had said these things, he took bread and gave thanks to God in the presence of them all.

Acts 27:35