

## HANDLING STORMS

Acts 27:1 (NIV) *When it was decided that **we** would sail for Italy, Paul and some other prisoners were handed over to a centurion named Julius, who belonged to the Imperial Regiment.*

### 3 ways to handle Storms

#### 1). Submit to God's Word (27:1-44)

Acts 27:10 (NIV) *Men, I can see that our voyage is going to be disastrous and bring great loss to ship and cargo, and to our own lives also.”<sup>11</sup> But the centurion, instead of listening to what Paul said, followed the advice of the pilot and of the owner of the ship.<sup>12</sup> Since the harbor was unsuitable to winter in, the majority decided that we should sail on, hoping to reach Phoenix and winter there. This was a harbor in Crete, facing both southwest and northwest.*

Acts 27:13 (NIV) *When a gentle south wind began to blow, they saw their opportunity; so they weighed anchor and sailed along the shore of Crete.*

Acts 27:39 (NIV) *When daylight came, they did not recognize the land, but they saw a bay with a sandy beach, where they decided to run the ship aground if they could.<sup>40</sup> Cutting loose the anchors, they left them in the sea and at the same time untied the ropes that held the rudders. Then they hoisted the foresail to the wind and made for the beach.<sup>41</sup> But the ship struck a sandbar and ran aground. The bow stuck fast and would not move, and the stern was broken to pieces by the pounding of the surf.*

<sup>42</sup> *The soldiers planned to kill the prisoners to prevent any of them from swimming away and escaping.<sup>43</sup> But the centurion wanted to spare Paul's life and kept them from carrying out their plan. He ordered those who could swim to jump overboard first and get to land.<sup>44</sup> The rest were to get there on planks or on other pieces of the ship. In this way everyone reached land safely.*

#### 2). Trust in God's Sovereignty (28:1-16)

Acts 28:3 (NIV) *Paul gathered a pile of brushwood and, as he put it on the fire, a viper, driven out by the heat, fastened itself on his hand.<sup>4</sup> When the islanders saw the snake hanging from his hand, they said to each other, “This man must be a murderer; for though he escaped from the sea, the goddess Justice has not allowed him to live.*

<sup>5</sup> But Paul shook the snake off into the fire and suffered no ill effects. <sup>6</sup> The people expected him to swell up or suddenly fall dead; but after waiting a long time and seeing nothing unusual happen to him, they changed their minds and said he was a god.

<sup>16</sup> When we got to Rome, Paul was allowed to live by himself, with a soldier to guard him.

### **3). Tell others about Jesus (28:17-31)**

Acts 1:8 (NIV) *But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.*

<sup>23</sup> They arranged to meet Paul on a certain day, and came in even larger numbers to the place where he was staying. He witnessed to them from morning till evening, explaining about the kingdom of God, and from the Law of Moses and from the Prophets he tried to persuade them about Jesus. <sup>24</sup> Some were convinced by what he said, but others would not believe

Acts 28:30 (NIV) *For two whole years Paul stayed there in his own rented house and welcomed all who came to see him. <sup>31</sup> He proclaimed the kingdom of God and taught about the Lord Jesus Christ—with all boldness and without hindrance.*