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Message 24 of 25

**Of Storms and Shipwrecks**

**Acts 27:1–28:10**

Introduction: The life of faith is, firstly, a journey, not simply a destination.

MAIN POINT: God is faithful to Paul through his journey to Rome. **We must also trust God in the journey of life and through storms when they come.**

We see that Paul both trusts in God and exerts a faith-filled influence on others.

1. Acts 27:1-38

* Luke devotes 3 times more space for the journey to Rome than what happens when they get there.
* God is faithful to bring Paul and his fellow-travellers safely to Rome.
* Paul is not alone – he is accompanied by Luke and Aristarchus from Thessalonica (the ‘we’ of verse 1), as well as other prisoners under a Centurion called Julius.
* Luke provides a detailed commentary on their journey.
* Paul warned them not to leave Fair Haves then (verse 9). He knew the dangers of the oceans (see 2 Cor 11:25-26).
* Things soon took a turn for the worst (verses 14-20), but Paul tells them that God has promised (and Paul has faith) that none of them will perish (verses 23-25; 34).

2. ACTS 27:39–28:10

* God is sovereign (Acts 2:14-36; 3:12-26; 4:23-31; 12:5-18; 17:24-31; 28:16-31)
* God can use us, as he did Paul, in trying circumstances, to bring hope and healing.

Conclusion

Paul was an agent of hope. He told people to take courage in what God said (27:22 and 25 – cf. 23:11. His action of eating food encouraged them in 27:35-36 also to eat.

Will we also be, in the midst of storms and trials, to stay focused and true to him and not to despair? We must trust in his sovereignty and goodness, as well as be willing to be used of him to bring hope and healing to those around us.