

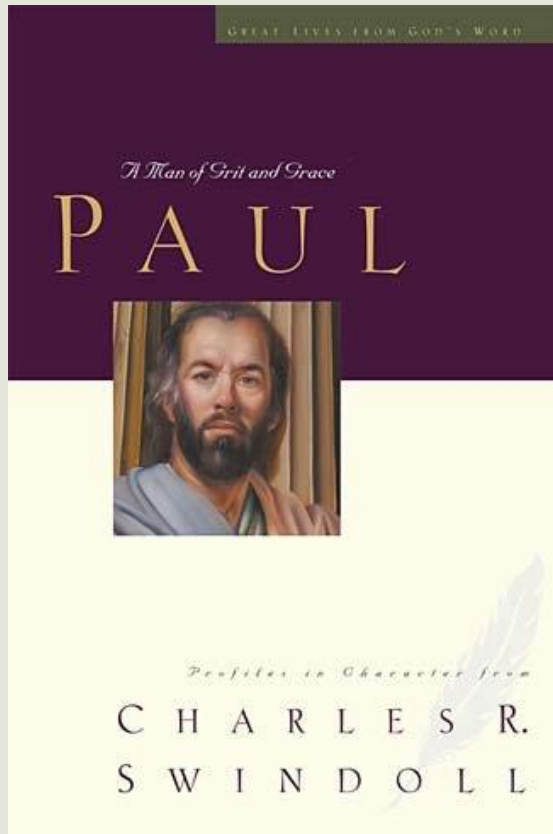


# Paul – Lesson 18

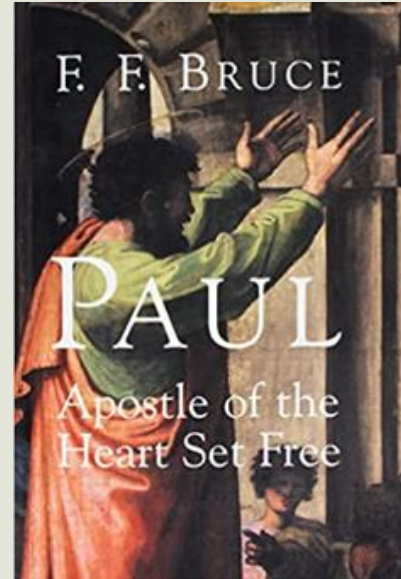
## New Testament Studies

CBC B&B Sunday School  
August 20, 2023

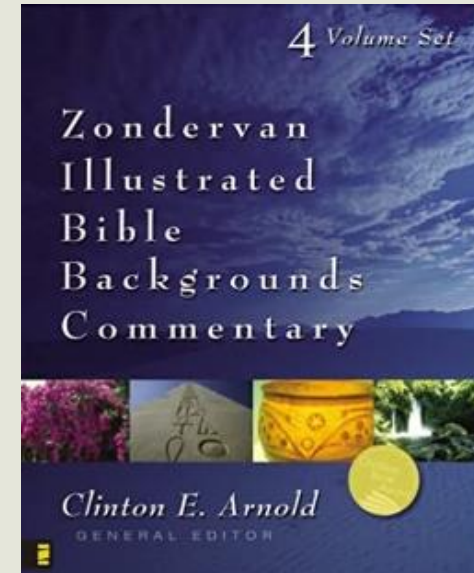
# Source Material



Primary Source



Companion Sources



# Lesson 18 Intro...

- Acts 27:1-28:29 (~ AD 59-60):
  - Paul was sent to Caesarea by the Roman Commander Lysias both for his protection and also to face trials for allegedly committed crimes punishable by death.
  - In Caesarea, he was tried before procurators Felix and Festus; then he evangelized to King Agrippa. In the trial before Festus, Paul appealed to Rome's authority, prompting Festus to send him to Rome to appeal his case.
  - The year is AD 58 (Fall)

# Lesson 18 Background

<sup>11</sup> But on the night *immediately* following, the Lord stood at his side and said, “Take courage; for as you have solemnly witnessed to My cause at Jerusalem, so you must witness at Rome also.”

Acts 23:11 [NASB]

# Acts 27:1-28:29 [NASB]

The Journey to Rome:  
Navigating through the Storms of Life

# Acts 27:1-3 [NASB]

**27** When it was decided that we would sail for Italy, they proceeded to deliver Paul and some other prisoners to a centurion of the Augustan cohort named Julius. <sup>2</sup> And embarking in an Adramyttian ship, which was about to sail to the regions along the coast of Asia, we put out to sea accompanied by Aristarchus, a Macedonian of Thessalonica. <sup>3</sup> **The next day we put in at Sidon**; and Julius treated Paul with consideration and allowed him to go to his friends and receive care.

# Paul's Journey to Rome

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# Acts 27:4-8 [NASB]

<sup>4</sup> From there we put out to sea and sailed under the shelter of Cyprus because the winds were contrary. <sup>5</sup> When we had sailed through the sea along the coast of Cilicia and Pamphylia, we landed at Myra in Lycia. <sup>6</sup> There the centurion found an Alexandrian ship sailing for Italy, and he put us aboard it. <sup>7</sup> When we had sailed slowly for a good many days, and with difficulty had arrived off Cnidus, since the wind did not permit us *to go* farther, we sailed under the shelter of Crete, off Salmone; <sup>8</sup> and with difficulty sailing past it we came to a place called Fair Havens, near which was the city of Lasea.



# Paul's Journey to Rome

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Acts 27:4

Acts 27:3

Acts 27:1

# Acts 27:4-8 [NASB]

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# Paul's Journey to Rome

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# Acts 27:9-12 [NASB]

<sup>9</sup> When considerable time had passed and the voyage was now dangerous, **since even the fast was already over**, Paul *began* to admonish them, <sup>10</sup> and said to them, “Men, I perceive that the voyage will certainly be with damage and great loss, not only of the cargo and the ship, but also of our lives.” <sup>11</sup> But the centurion was more persuaded by the pilot and the captain of the ship than by what was being said by Paul. <sup>12</sup> Because the harbor was not suitable for wintering, the majority reached a decision to put out to sea from there, if somehow they could reach Phoenix, a harbor of Crete, facing southwest and northwest, and spend the winter *there*.

# Acts 27:9-12 [NIV]

<sup>9</sup> Much time had been lost, and sailing had already become dangerous because by now **it was after the Day of Atonement**. So Paul warned them, <sup>10</sup> “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.

# Jewish Festivals

## Spring Feast Events

- Passover – begins on the fourteenth day on the Hebrew calendar month of Nisan (first month on the Jewish calendar); lasts eight days (cf Exodus 12)
- Feast of Unleavened Bread – lasts seven days, beginning the day after Passover
- Feast of Firstfruits – begins the day after Feast of Unleavened Bread (Deut 26)
- Feast of Weeks (Pentecost) – 50 days after Feast of Firstfruits begins (Leviticus 23)

## Fall Feast Events

- Feast of Trumpets – first day of the seventh month (~ September – October)
- **Day of Atonement** – begins ten days after Feast of Trumpets
- Feast of Tabernacles – begins five days after the Day of Atonement



# Paul's Journey to Rome

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Acts 27:12-13

[biblestudy.org](http://biblestudy.org)

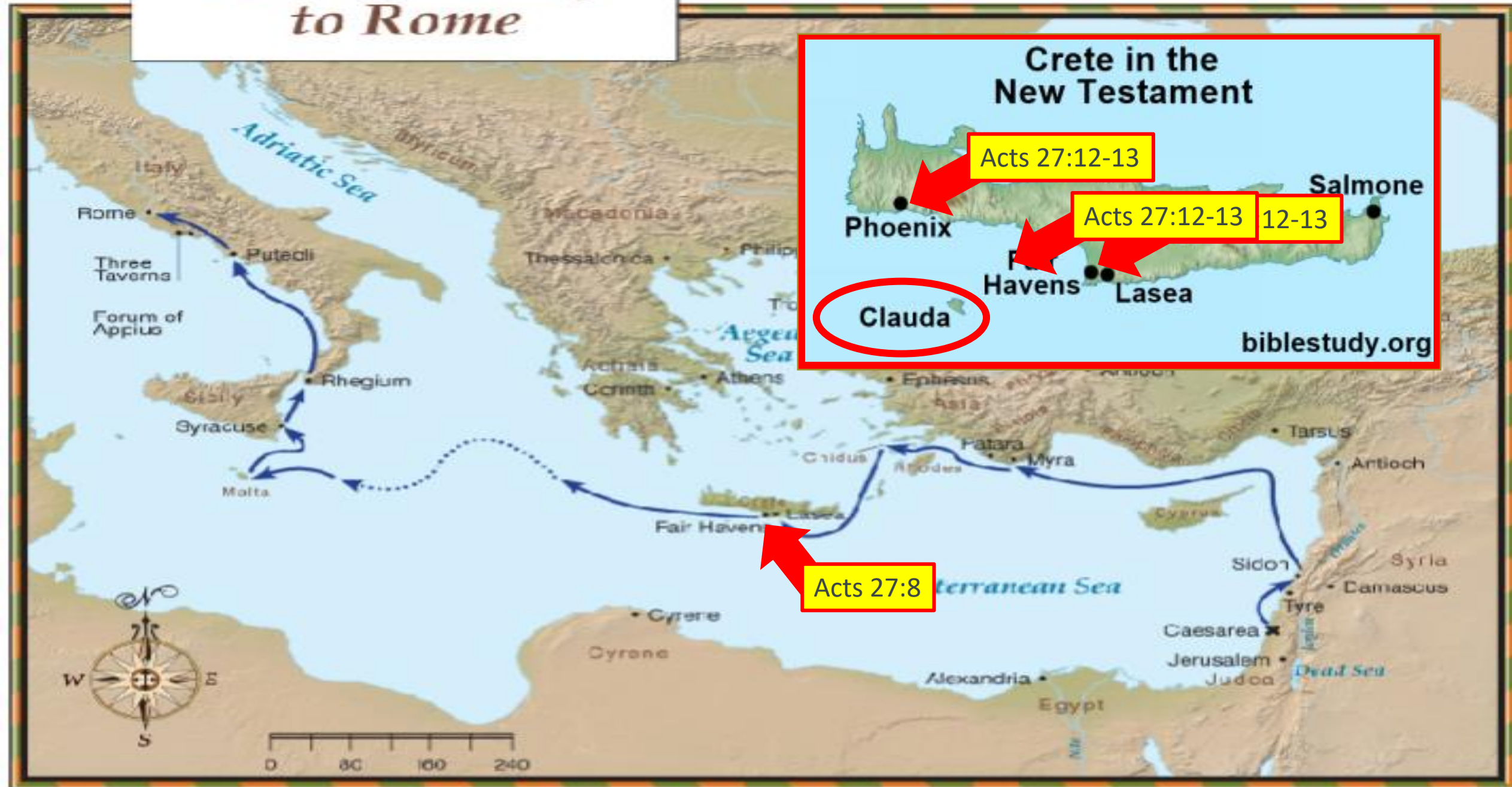


# Acts 27:13-20 [NASB]

<sup>13</sup> When a moderate south wind came up, supposing that they had attained their purpose, they weighed anchor and *began* sailing along Crete, close *inshore*. <sup>14</sup> But before very long there rushed down from the land a violent wind, called **Euraquilo**; <sup>15</sup> and when the ship was caught *in it* and could not face the wind, we gave way *to it* and let ourselves be driven along. <sup>16</sup> **Running under the shelter of a small island called Clauda**, we were scarcely able to get the *ship's* boat under control.

# Paul's Journey to Rome

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# Paul's Journey to Rome

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## Crete in the New Testament

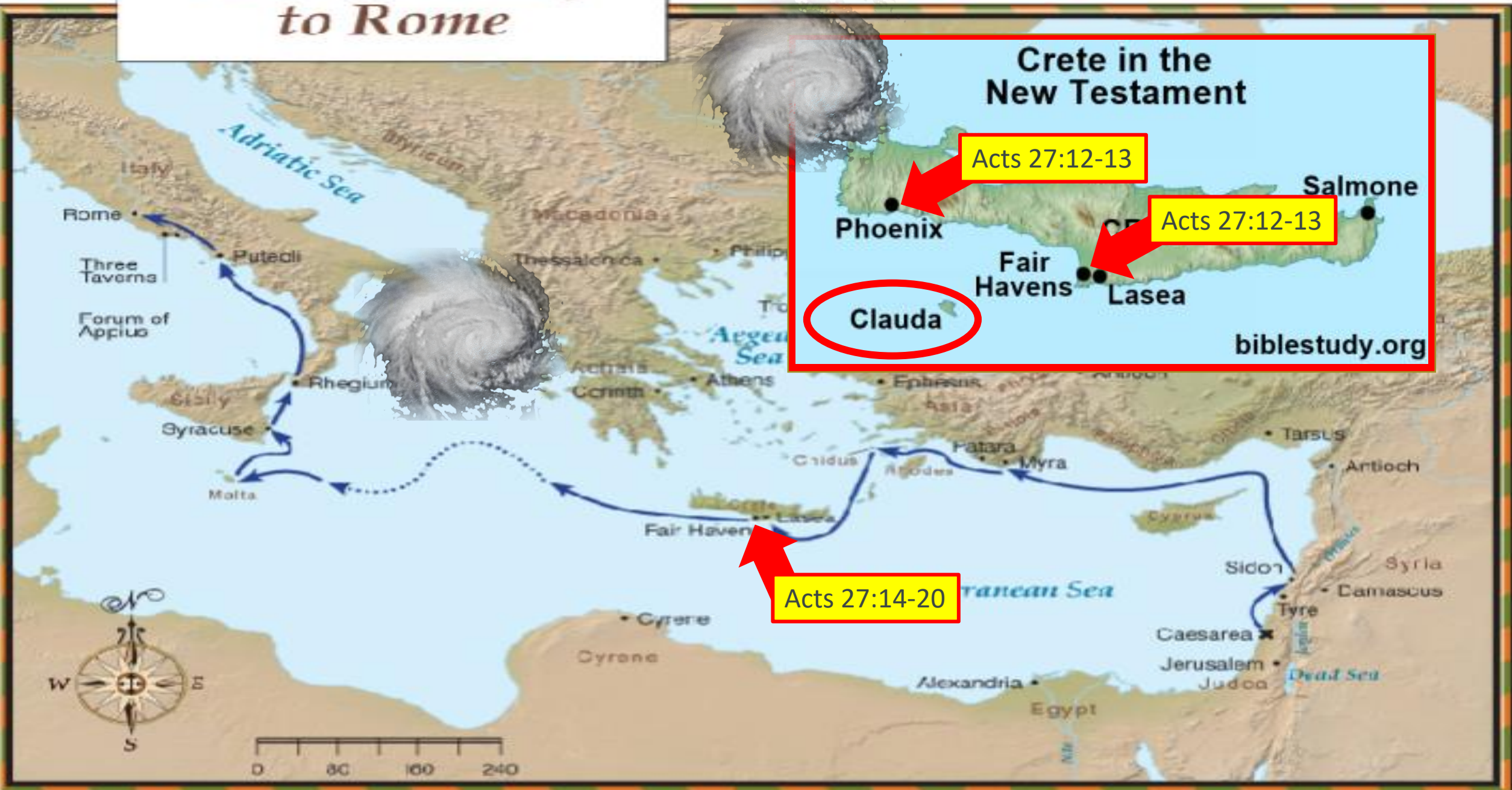
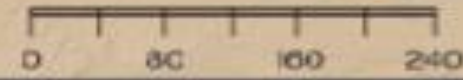
This inset map shows the island of Crete with several locations marked by black dots. Phoenix is located on the western coast, and Salmone is on the eastern coast. Fair Havens and Lasea are marked on the southern coast. A red oval encircles the location of Claudia on the southern coast. Two red arrows point from yellow text boxes to Phoenix and Lasea. The text 'biblestudy.org' is written in the bottom right corner of the inset.

Acts 27:12-13

Acts 27:12-13

Clauda

Acts 27:14-20



# Acts 27:13-20 [NASB]

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# Acts 27:13-20 [NASB]

<sup>17</sup> After they had hoisted it up, they used supporting cables in undergirding the ship; and fearing that they might run aground on *the shallows* of Syrtis, they let down the sea anchor and in this way let themselves be driven along. <sup>18</sup> The next day as we were being violently storm-tossed, they began to jettison the cargo; <sup>19</sup> **and on the third day** they threw the ship's tackle overboard with their own hands. <sup>20</sup> Since neither sun nor stars appeared for many days, and no small storm was assailing *us*, from then on all hope of our being saved was gradually abandoned.

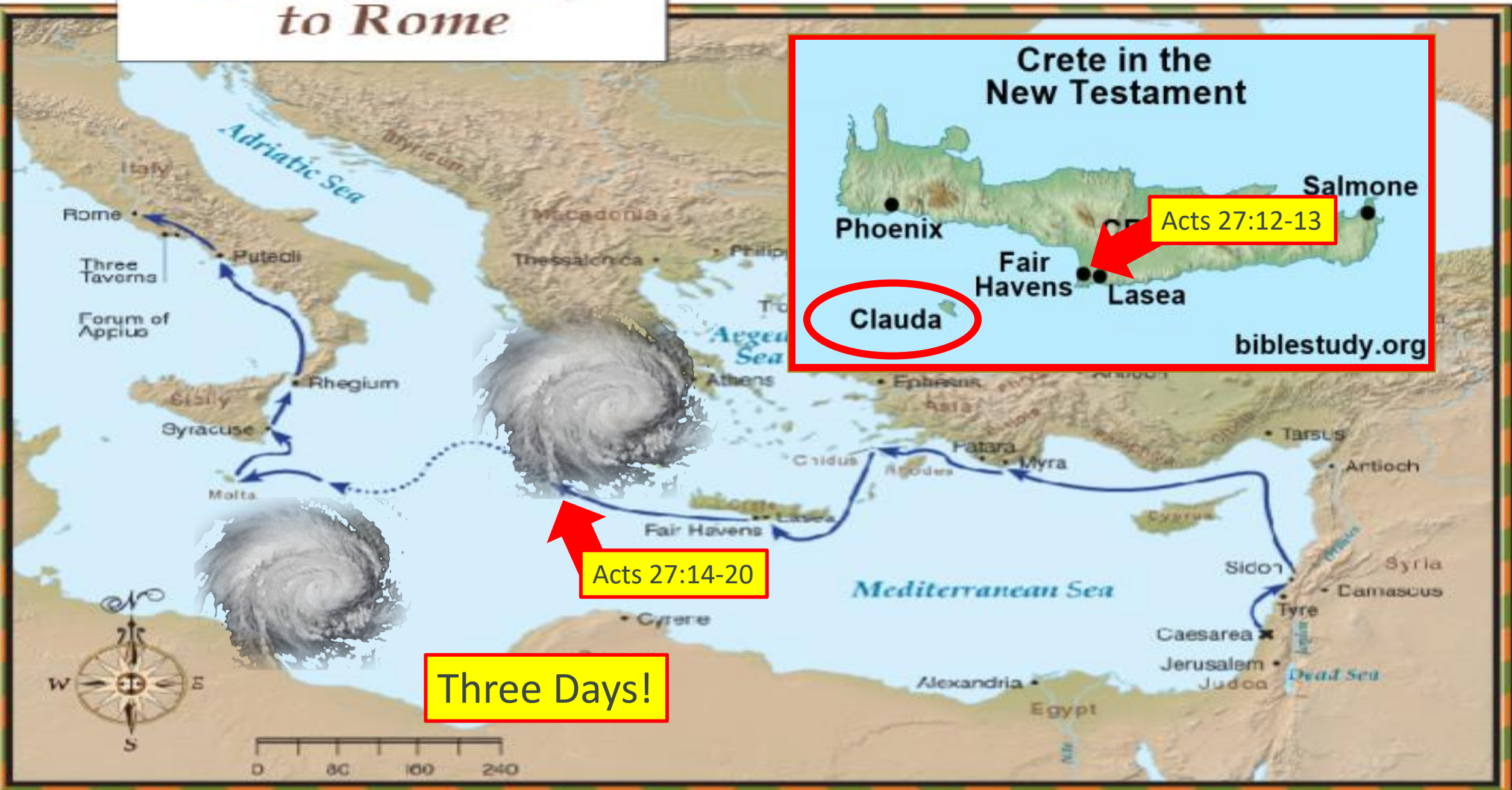
# Paul's Journey to Rome

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Acts 27:14-20

Three Days!



# Acts 27:21-26 [NASB]

<sup>21</sup> When they had gone a long time without food, then Paul stood up in their midst and said, “Men, you ought to have followed my advice and not to have set sail from Crete and incurred this damage and loss. <sup>22</sup> *Yet now I urge you to keep up your courage, for there will be no loss of life among you, but **only of the ship.*** <sup>23</sup> For this very night an angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I serve stood before me, <sup>24</sup> saying, ‘Do not be afraid, Paul; you must stand before Caesar; and behold, God has granted you all those who are sailing with you.’ <sup>25</sup> Therefore, keep up your courage, men, for I believe God that it will turn out exactly as I have been told. <sup>26</sup> But we must run aground on a certain island.”



# Acts 27:27-30 [NASB]

<sup>27</sup> But when the fourteenth night came, as we were being **driven about in the Adriatic Sea**, about midnight the sailors *began* to surmise that they were approaching some land. <sup>28</sup> They took soundings and found *it to be* twenty fathoms; and a little farther on they took another sounding and found *it to be* fifteen fathoms. <sup>29</sup> Fearing that we might run aground somewhere on the rocks, they cast four anchors from the stern and wished for daybreak. <sup>30</sup> But as the sailors were trying to escape from the ship and had let down the *ship's* boat into the sea, on the pretense of intending to lay out anchors from the bow,

# Acts 27:31-32 [NASB]

<sup>31</sup> Paul said to the centurion and to the soldiers, “Unless these men remain in the ship, you yourselves cannot be saved.” <sup>32</sup> Then the soldiers cut away the ropes of the *ship’s* boat and let it fall away.

# Paul's Journey to Rome

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Two weeks!

Acts 27:27-32



# Acts 27:33-38 [NASB]

<sup>33</sup> Until the day was about to dawn, Paul was encouraging them all to take some food, saying, “**Today is the fourteenth day that you have been constantly watching and going without eating, having taken nothing.** <sup>34</sup> **Therefore I encourage you to take some food, for this is for your preservation, for not a hair from the head of any of you will perish.**” <sup>35</sup> Having said this, he took bread and gave thanks to God in the presence of all, and he broke it and began to eat. <sup>36</sup> All of them were encouraged and they themselves also took food. <sup>37</sup> All of us in the ship were two hundred and seventy-six persons. <sup>38</sup> When they had eaten enough, they *began* to lighten the ship by throwing out the wheat into the sea.

# Acts 27:39-40 [NASB]

<sup>39</sup> When day came, they could not recognize the land; but they did observe a bay with a beach, and they resolved to drive the ship onto it if they could. <sup>40</sup> And casting off the anchors, they left them in the sea while at the same time they were loosening the ropes of the rudders; and hoisting the foresail to the wind, they were heading for the beach.

# Paul's Journey to Rome

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Acts 27:39-40; 28:1



# Acts 27:41-44 [NASB]

<sup>41</sup> But striking a reef where two seas met, they ran the vessel aground; and the prow stuck fast and remained immovable, but the stern *began to be broken up by the force of the waves*. <sup>42</sup> The soldiers' plan was to kill the prisoners, so that none *of them* would swim away and escape; <sup>43</sup> but the centurion, wanting to bring Paul safely through, kept them from their intention, and commanded that those who could swim should jump overboard first and get to land, <sup>44</sup> and the rest *should follow*, some on planks, and others on various things from the ship. And so it happened that they all were brought safely to land.

# Acts 28:1-4 [NASB]

**28** When they had been brought safely through, then **we found out that the island was called Malta.** <sup>2</sup> The natives showed us extraordinary kindness; for because of the rain that had set in and because of the cold, they kindled a fire and received us all. <sup>3</sup> But when Paul had gathered a bundle of sticks and laid them on the fire, a viper came out because of the heat and fastened itself on his hand. <sup>4</sup> When the natives saw the creature hanging from his hand, they *began* saying to one another, “Undoubtedly this man is a murderer, and though he has been saved from the sea, justice has not allowed him to live.”



# Paul's Journey to Rome

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Acts 28:1



# Acts 28:1-4 [NASB]

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# Acts 28:5-10 [NASB]

<sup>5</sup> However he shook the creature off into the fire and suffered no harm. <sup>6</sup> But they were expecting that he was about to swell up or suddenly fall down dead. But after they had waited a long time and had seen nothing unusual happen to him, **they changed their minds and *began* to say that he was a god.**<sup>7</sup> Now in the neighborhood of that place were lands belonging to the leading man of the island, named Publius, who welcomed us and entertained us courteously **three days.** <sup>8</sup> And it happened that the father of Publius was lying *in bed* afflicted with *recurrent* fever and dysentery; and Paul went in *to see* him and after he had prayed, he laid his hands on him and healed him. <sup>9</sup> After this had happened, the rest of the people on the island who had diseases were coming to him and getting cured. <sup>10</sup> They also honored us with many marks of respect; and when we were setting sail, they supplied *us* with all we needed.

# Acts 28:11-15 [NASB]

<sup>11</sup> **At the end of three months** we set sail on an Alexandrian ship which had wintered at the island, and which had the Twin Brothers for its figurehead. <sup>12</sup> After we put in at Syracuse, we stayed there **for three days**. <sup>13</sup> From there we sailed around and arrived at Rhegium, and a day later a south wind sprang up, and on the second day we came to Puteoli. <sup>14</sup> There we found *some* brethren, and were invited to stay with them for **seven days**; and thus we came to Rome. <sup>15</sup> And the brethren, when they heard about us, came from there as far as the Market of Appius and Three Inns to meet us; and when Paul saw them, he thanked God and took courage.

# Paul's Journey to Rome

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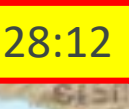
Acts 28:14



Acts 28:13



Acts 28:12



Acts 28:1



# Acts 28:16 [NASB]

<sup>16</sup> When we entered Rome, Paul was allowed to stay by himself, with the soldier who was guarding him.

~ **AD 59 (late Spring, early Summer)**

# Paul's Journey to Rome

## Class Discussion –

Our Tendencies when we face “Storms”

# Swindoll's Principles

Anchors for our Storm-Tossed Soul



# Principles I

**Anchor of Stability (27:20-26).** When the ship was lost at sea, unable to know their location due to the darkened skies (loss of navigation system), the people on the ship panicked, losing hope of being saved (27:20). This is what can happen when we face intense adversity – we tend to focus on the loss of our navigation system, finding it difficult to focus on anything other than the “storm” knocking us in all directions. Our tendency would be to turn to other sources for strength rather than the Word of God. Following Paul’s example, recognize that our anchor of stability (Word of God) holds firm when our navigation system fails during turbulent times.

# Principles II

**Anchor of Unity (27:27-32).** After fourteen nights had passed with no observable change in circumstances, the temptation was strong to abandon ship and to try to survive on their own. This is our tendency during turbulent times – to cut and run. The outcome of the cut-and-run approach is that the strength and support of the community would be lost. Individuals who leave the church or fellowship during their turbulent times inevitably find themselves alone, likely leading to depression or other undesirable alone conditions. In turbulent times, people need each other for encouragement and support. Avoid the temptation to cut and run (face the storm by yourself).

# Principles III

**Anchor of Renewal (27:33-36).** During the fourteen-day turbulent times, the people on the ship were so focused on the storm that they failed to be properly nourished. In times of intense adversity, we too have this tendency to spend so much energy fighting battles that we fail to take care of our own body. We would cut corners on meals, deprive ourselves of needed sleep, and most importantly, we would forget to pray. After fourteen days, Paul had to remind the people to take a break and take care of their body. Before they ate, he led them in prayer.

# Principles IV

**Anchor of Reality (27:41-44).** As the vessel ran aground and the waves began to break the ship apart, the soldiers on the ship were more concerned about managing the prisoners than about surviving, being in denial of their situation that led to misplaced priorities. In times of intense adversity, we also have a tendency to be in denial that led us to have misplaced priorities. We tend to focus on our normal routines and responsibilities, missing the reality that danger is upon us. Facing reality is often difficult, as it will require us to take actions we do not want to take. In this example, 276 souls were told to jump into the turbulent waters and swim to shore – with or without a plank to assist. None of them likely would've preferred this path, but this is the reality. Jump or die. As Luke records, all 276 survived. God is faithful.

# Questions