## SHINING HROUGH MESSAGE FOUR: IN THIS WAY

## PAUL SAILS FOR ROME



When the time came, we set sail for Italy. Paul and several other prisoners were placed in the custody of a Roman officer (centurion) named Julius, a captain of the Imperial Regiment. ... We left on a ship ,,, scheduled to make several stops at ports along the coast of the province. ... The next day we docked at Sidon, ... Putting out to sea from there, we encountered strong headwinds that made it difficult to keep the ship on course, ...

ACTS 27:1-4 NLT



Keeping to the open sea, we passed along the coast ..., landing at Myra, ... There the commanding officer found an Egyptian ship from Alexandria that was bound for Italy, and he put us on board. We had several days of slow sailing, and after great difficulty we finally neared Cnidus. But the wind was against us, so we sailed to Crete and along the sheltered coast of the island, ... We struggled along the coast with great difficulty ... The weather was becoming dangerous for sea travel ...

ACTS 27:5-9 NLT



*". Paul spoke to the ship's officers ". "Men," he said, "I believe there is trouble ahead if we go on – shipwreck, loss of cargo, and danger to our lives as well." ". When a light wind began blowing from the south, the sailors thought they could make it. So they pulled up anchor and sailed close to the shore of Crete.*But the weather changed abruptly, and a wind of typhoon *strength (called a "northeaster") burst across the island and blew us out to sea. "*

ACTS 27:10-14 NLT



The next day, as gale -force winds continued to batter the ship, the crew began throwing the cargo overboard. The following day they even took some of the ship's gear and threw it overboard. The terrible storm raged for many days, blotting out the sun and the stars, until all hope was gone. No one had eaten for a long time. Finally, Paul called the crew together and said, "Men, you should have listened to me in the first place ... But take courage (heart)! None of you will lose your lives, even though the ship ...

ACTS 27:18-22 NLT



For last night an angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I serve stood beside me, and he said, "Don't be afraid, ... So take courage! For I believe God. It will be just as he said. But we will be shipwrecked on an island." ... Then the sailors tried to abandon the ship; they lowered the lifeboat ... But Paul said to the commanding officer and the soldiers, "You will die unless the sailors stay aboard." So the soldiers cut the ropes to the lifeboat ...

ACTS 27:23-32 NLT



### Just as the day was dawning,

Paul urged everyone to eat. "You have been so worried that you haven't touched food for two weeks," he said. Then he took some bread, gave thanks to God before them ... Then everyone was encouraged and began to eat – all 276 of us who were on board. After eating, the crew lightened the ship further by throwing the cargo of wheat overboard. When morning dawned, they didn't recognize the coastline, but they saw a bay with a beach and wondered if they could get to shore by running the ship aground. So they cut off the anchors and let them to sea. ACTS 27:33-40a NLT

But they hit a shoal and ran the ship aground to soon. ... The soldiers wanted to kill the prisoners to make sure they didn't swim ashore and escape. But the commanding officer wanted to spare Paul, ... Then he ordered all who could swim to jump overboard first and make for land. The others held on to planks or debris from the broken ship. So everyone escaped safely to shore. (In this way, everyone reached land safely. - NIV) Once we were safe on shore, we learned we were on the island of Malta. The people of the island were very kind to us. It was cold and rainy, so they built a fire ... to welcome us. ACTS 27:41-44; 28:1-2 NLT

As Paul gathered an armful of sticks and was laying them on the fire, a poisonous snake, driven out by the heat, bit him (fastened itself) on the hand. The people of the island saw it hanging from his hand and said to each other, "A murderer, no doubt! Justice will not permit him to live." But Paul shook of the snake into the fire and was unharmed. ... people waited for him to swell up or suddenly drop dead. But when they had waited a long time and saw he wasn't harmed, they changed theirs minds and decided he was a god.

ACTS 28:3-6 NLT



Near the shore where we landed was an estate belonging to Publius, the chief official of the island. He welcomed us ... Publius's father was ill with fever and dysentery. Paul went in and prayed for him, ... he healed him. ... all the other sick people on the island ... were healed. As a result we were showered with honors, and when the time came to sail, people supplied us with everything we would need for the trip. It was three months after the shipwreck we set sail ... And so we came to Rome.

ACTS 28:7-14 NLT



## MARKS OF A DISCIPLE

- 1. When you give ...
- 2. When you pray ...
- 3. When you fast ...
- 4. When you gather ...
- 5. When you focus ...



Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant, nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything .... 1 Timothy 6:17 NIV



Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and generous and willing to share. In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation ..., so that they may take hold of life that is truly life.

1 Timothy 6:17-18 NIV



# BE RIGINE - Serve - Love

2020 Generosity Campaign





### 2020 GOAL: \$10,000

#### **2020 INTERSECT PARTNERS**



## **3 QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER:**

- 1. What is your Rome (purpose)? Have you set sail with a plan to achieve this purpose like Paul did?
- 2. Have you faced difficulty, great difficulties and danger during this pandemic? What have you had to toss overboard? Have you "taken heart"?
- 2. Have you been missed your Malta because you are focused on your Rome (plans)? Have you cut the anchors and "let them to sea"? Are you "All In"?

