

Acts 27

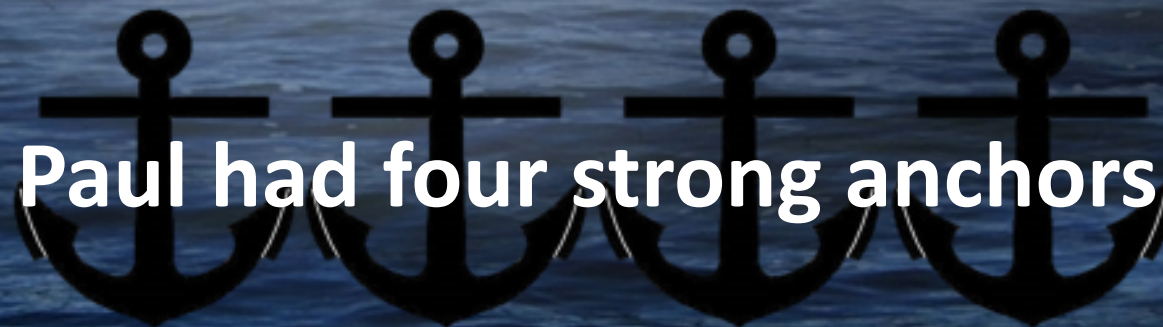
Voyage to Rome – Shipwreck at Sea

- Paul has appealed to Caesar – so being sent to Rome
- “This account of Paul’s voyage to Rome is like no other story in all the Bible” (Reese)
 - *Attention given to ships & seas, winds & waves, islands, towns and harbors*
 - *Description of first century ships & seamanship*
 - *Story of a servant of God in midst of an extreme emergency*



Were in a storm that seemed to be overwhelming

- Cast four anchors into the sea (v. 29)
- Anchors proved to be ineffective – ship was lost
- However, Paul was on board
- Because of who he was (a man of God, a man of faith) – he was anchored – though the ship was not!



Paul had four strong anchors

ANCHORED



In the Storms of Life

- Times when seas are calm – sailing is smooth (v. 13)
- But – unexpectedly a contrary wind will arise (v. 14)
- In midst of storm – time for decision & action (vv. 18-19)
- Could easily be discouraged or just give up – Luke did (v. 20)

ANCHORED



**In the
Storms
of Life**

Your Storm

**Turmoil in the family
Difficulties on job
Health challenges
Personal problems
Church issues
Strained relationships**

ANCHORED



In the
Storms
of Life

I. The Presence of God (v. 23) ⚓

A. Paul knew he was not alone

1. *God did not disappear in the darkness of the storm*
2. *God was there to comfort, strengthen, help & assure...*

I. The Presence of God (v. 23)



A. Paul knew he was not alone

B. God has assured us – he will not leave

1. *Heb. 13:5*

2. *Psa. 23:4*

3. *What an encouragement: every step, valley & mountain –
He is still there!*

4. *Phil. 4:13 – I can face it all....*

I. The Presence
of God (v. 23)



- A. Paul knew he was not alone
- B. God has assured us – he will not leave
- C. Assurance come with total devotion & commitment (v. 23b)
 - 1. *Why the angel appeared to him and not others on the ship*
 - 2. *I belong to God*
 - a. Not a god that belongs to me
 - b. I am God's (Rom. 12:1)
 - 3. *Serve God (Gal. 2:20)*

***Do you have such devotion
That you can be assured of His presence?***

I. The Presence of God (v. 23)



ANCHORED



In the Storms of Life

I. The Presence of God (v. 23) ⚓

II. The Promise of God (vv. 24-25) ⚓

A. God reminded Paul of promise would stand before Caesar

1. *Acts 23:11*
2. *Times need be reminded of what we have already been told – further assured!*

II. The Promise of God (vv. 24-25)



A. God reminded Paul of promise would stand before Caesar

B. Promise is granted to Paul & fellow travelers

1. *Perhaps a response to prayer*
2. *At least a response to Paul somehow*

II. The Promise of God (vv. 24-25)



A. God reminded Paul of promise would stand before Caesar

B. Promise is granted to Paul & fellow travelers

C. The promises God has made:

1. *Word will not return void (Isa. 55:11)*
2. *No temptation greater than bear (1 Cor. 10:13)*
3. *Remember sins no more (Heb. 8:12)*
4. *Never stumble or fall (2 Pet. 1:5-10)*
5. *Prayer of righteous avails much (Jas. 5:16)*
6. *Will be a remnant (Dan. 2:44)*
7. *Christ is coming again (2 Pet. 3)*
8. *Eternal life (1 Jno. 2:25)*

II. The Promise of God (vv. 24-25)



- A. God reminded Paul of promise would stand before Caesar
- B. Promise is granted to Paul & fellow travelers
- C. The promises God has made:
- D. Response was “I believe God that it shall be just as told me”
 - 1. *Assurance, Reliance, Trust & Confidence*
 - 2. *God’s promises are sure and steadfast (Heb. 6:18)*
 - 3. *In spite of promises – some still took matters into own hands (vv. 28-39) – even trying to get off ship (vv. 30-31)*
 - 4. *They feared, fretted and fought – but Paul had faith!*

II. The Promise of God (vv. 24-25)



ANCHORED



In the Storms of Life

I. The Presence of God (v. 23) ⚓

II. The Promise of God (vv. 24-25) ⚓

III. The Providence of God (v. 24) ⚓

A. Providence defined

1. *“The working of God through His provision in the natural and spiritual realms, and yet it is a control that violates neither the sovereignty of the human will nor the divine natural and spiritual laws.” (H. Hailey)*
2. *“Providence” (Acts 24:2) comes from pronoia which means “forethought” (Vines). – God used forethought in creating a universe that he could control and use for his purpose.*
3. *Providence is the non-miraculous use of natural law and circumstance to accomplish his purpose.*

III. The Providence of God (v. 24)



A. Providence defined

B. Here in life of Paul – God is working out his purpose (v. 24)

1. God's purpose is to bring him before Caesar
2. God is working that out through natural means

**III. The Providence
of God (v. 24)**



A. Providence defined

B. Here in life of Paul – God is working out his purpose (v. 24)

C. We do not always know when or what God is doing

1. Esther 4:14 – “who knows...”

2. Philemon 15 – “perhaps”

3. Can be assured God is accomplishing his will (Rev. 4:11)

III. The Providence of God (v. 24)



ANCHORED



In the Storms of Life

- I. The Presence of God (v. 23) ⚓
- II. The Promise of God (vv. 24-25) ⚓
- III. The Providence of God (v. 24) ⚓
- IV. The Performance of God (v. 44) ⚓

A. Lord did what he had promised

1. *All made it safe to shore*
2. *There was no loss of life*

IV. The Performance of God (v. 44)



A. Lord did what he had promised

B. God does what he says

1. *Powerful God (Luke 1:37)*
2. *Can do everything (Job 42:2)*
3. *Can do more than ask (Eph. 3:20)*

IV. The Performance of God (v. 44)



- A. Lord did what he had promised
- B. God does what he says
- C. God will do what he has said – in midst of your storm

IV. The Performance of God (v. 44)



ANCHORED



In the Storms of Life

- I. The Presence of God (v. 23) ⚓
- II. The Promise of God (vv. 24-25) ⚓
- III. The Providence of God (v. 24) ⚓
- IV. The Performance of God (v. 44) ⚓