

The Book of Acts

Chapter 28

Growth of the New Testament Church

Quiz

2

- What was the name of the centurion over Paul's voyage?
 - Julius
- What two friends appear to be accompanying Paul in Acts 27?
 - Luke and Aristarchus
- Fair Havens was a port on what island?
 - Crete
- Why did the shipmaster not want to winter at Fair Havens?
 - Not a good port for a long stay

Quiz

3

- What message did an angel give Paul during the storm?
 - He would reach Rome and all those who were with him.
- How many days (at least) did the ship drift in the storm?
 - 14 (v.33)
- How long is a fathom?
 - The distance from fingertip to fingertip when arms are outstretched.
- How many people were on board the sinking ship?
 - 276

The Island of Malta, v.1-2

4

- 7 The ship had crashed on the Island Melita or Malta.
- The barbarous people were kind to the sailors.
 - **Barbarous** simply means that they spoke a foreign language other than Greek.



Paul's Snakebite, v.3-6

5

- As Paul helped to gather sticks for a fire a poisonous snake came out of the burning wood and bit him, v.3
 - Note the local people's reaction, v.4. He must be a murderer because though he escaped the storm he is now going to die.
 - Paul shook off the snake into the fire and it did not hurt him, v.5
 - The people expected Paul to swell up and suddenly die. The people knew that such snakes were very deadly.
 - When Paul did not die, they changed their minds and thought he must be a god.

God healed Publius' father, v.7-10

6

- Near the place where the sailors came ashore was the property of the chief of the island named Publius, v.7
 - He received or entertained them.
 - He lodged them for three days.
 - This was probably temporary lodging until extended lodging could be found for them.
- Publius' father was sick with dysentery, bowel ailment.*
 - God, through Paul, healed the man, v.8
 - Other sick people on the island then came to be healed, v.9
- When they set sail, the grateful people gave them provisions.

Trip to Rome Resumed, v.11-15

7

- They stayed on Malta for 3 months, v.11
- They departed on a ship of Alexandria (in Egypt).*
- **8** Their first 3-day stop was at Syracuse, v.12
- **9** Next they fetched a compass and came to Rhegium, v.13 *
- **10** The wind from the south took them to Puteoli.
 - There they fellowshipped with Christian brethren seven days, v.14.* The remaining journey was on foot.
 - Other Christians met them along the land trip, v.15



Paul's Arrival in Rome, v.16

8

- Upon arriving at Rome, Julius turned over the prisoners to the captain of the guard, but he arranged for Paul to have his own quarters with a guard, v.16 *
- Guzik states, “At the time, Rome had a population of about two million - one million slave, one million free. Society was divided into roughly three classes: A small upper class, a large class of the poor, and slaves.”

Paul Spoke to the Chief of the Jews, v.17-22

9

- He wanted the Jews to know exactly why he was arrested.
 - He explained his innocence, v.17
 - He notes the Roman's conclusion, v.18
 - He reveals why he appealed to Caesar, v.19
 - He said it was for the hope of Israel that he was chained, v.20
- No accusations against Paul had reached them, v.21
 - They may not have been as ignorant as they pretended. *
- They invited Paul to tell them about “this sect” (Christianity), v.22. **What a wonderful invitation!**

Paul Preached to the Gathered Jews, v. 23-29

10

- The Jews came to hear Paul, v.23
 - He expounded and testified the kingdom of God (the Gospel)
 - He persuaded concerning Jesus from the OT all day long.*
 - The response was mixed, v.24
- When they disagreed, Paul quoted Isaiah, v.25-27
- Because the Jews rejected God's salvation, God sent it to the Gentiles, v.28. **Their loss is our gain!**
- Departing the Jews had **great reasoning** among themselves.

Two Years of Preaching, v.30-31

11

- Paul lived two years in his own hired dwelling.
 - Though he paid for rent, he was still constantly chained to a soldier.
 - He received all who came to hear him.
 - His soldiers (up to 6 per day) all heard the Gospel day after day.
 - Eph 6:19-20
 - Php 1:12-13
 - Col 4:3-4
- He preached the kingdom and taught concerning Christ.
 - He had confidence or freedom to preach
 - No one forbid him or hindered his preaching

Applications for us today

12

- God allowed the shipwreck to become an opportunity for the Gospel.
 - We must remember that God sees the overall picture of our lives. Events that we call “problems”, “trials”, “accidents” God may call opportunities for the Gospel. We must use them as such!
- Paul did not die from the snake bite.
 - Paul did not tempt the snake, and it was not God’s time for Paul to die.
 - We too cannot die until it is God’s time for us to die. He knows best!
- God ordained that the Gospel go to the Jew first and then to the Gentile.
 - It is a blessing that God loves the whole world and not just the Jews. We too need to reach out to all nationalities with the Good News. We need to give and to go!
- Only heaven will reveal how many guards and officials came to Christ while Paul was chained those 2 years.
 - We too must take advantage of every opportunity that God affords us to share the Gospel. Some will receive it!