Hope Amid the Storm   Acts 27:13-26

Introduction
"All we can do now is pray." That's often an unused last resort.
   The ship's crew had tried everything else; hope was gone.
Such despair should never overtake you in Christ.

I. You will lose hope when your methods fail.
   A. Your hope is limited to the limitations of your god.
      1. Many serve a god that is not omnipotent.
      2. Don't limit the Lord in your own thinking.
   B. Don't be limited by human abilities or creativity.
      1. You can only do so much.
      2. Know the God who has revealed Himself to us.
   C. You need an unlimited God to have a secure hope.
      1. Any limitation of your god will leave the possibility of failure.
      2. Know the glory of the Lord God to have secure hope.

II. Hope is restored to you by the One Who does not fail.
   A. God has revealed His omnipotence to you.
      1. Christ showed His power over disease, death, demons, nature.
      2. His power should give you courage.
   B. God has also given you His promises and His will.
      1. Be satisfied with His promises.
      2. Remember His goodness: mercy, grace, love.
   C. Be confident in God's promises because of His omnipotence.
      1. God's moral perfection combines these for your good.
      2. See the big picture that dwarfs the storm.

III. Belong to the unfailing One and serve Him.
   A. See the difference between having a god and belonging to God.
      1. God calls you into a covenant relationship with himself.
      2. He obligates Himself to you & you to Him.
   B. Belong to the true God by faith in Jesus Christ.
      1. This is more than a confession of His existence; it is confidence!
      2. It is available to you. Come to Him in repentance and faith.
   C. Serve the true God as your unfailing Lord.
      1. You will do this if you really belong to Him.
      2. He is your Master whose yoke is easy.

Conclusion
Prayer is not your last resort; it's the place of hope and courage.
   Recognize how big your God is & rely on Him.
Your power does not succeed; God's mercy never fails.

Psalms 42C, 27F, 62B