Paul Sails for Rome

Acts 27:1-28:16

PART SIX: From Malta to Rome; 28:11-16 Introduction Paul Arrives at Rome v11 "three months" "twin gods" v12 v13 "Syracuse...Rhegium...Puteoli" The imperative need for Christian fellowship v14 v15 "the Forum of Appius and Three Taverns" "On seeing them, Paul thanked God and took courage." Ministers of the gospel in the care of souls are often equally given to flights of joy and elation and fits of fear and depression. 2 Corinthians 1:8-11 "the one who endures to the end will be saved." Matthew 24:13

Seven Salient Standards for Saints as Paul Sails the Surly Seas to Safety

v16

1. Hospitality: the manifestation of "good fruits" from a heart full of *love, mercy, kindness, goodness* (28:7). The reciprocal nature of hospitality (28:7-10).

- 2. Paul's selfless compassion, care and concern for everyone on the ship (27:22; 33-37), and on the island (28:3; 8-9)
- 3. God's protection is promised to His children, but it operates within and according to His sovereign plan (Job 23:13-14; Isaiah 14:24,27; 2 Timothy 4:17-18).
- 4. God often waits until His people exhaust themselves completely before He delivers them (27:18-20; Ezekiel 37:11-14)
- 5. Divine protection is provided when faith/trust prevails (27:25; Job 13:15; 23:10)
- 6. Faith/trust in God produces internal peace amid the storms in life (Mark 4:37-40; Isaiah 26:2-4)
- 7. Embrace with patient endurance the irrevocable promises of God (27:24; Hebrews 6:11-20)

"We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul," Hebrews 6:19

Isaiah 57:20

"The Lord is a stronghold for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble. And those who know your name put their trust in you, for you, O Lord, have not forsaken those who seek you." Psalm 9:9-10

It is Jesus who is with us in the darkness on the storm-tossed ship.

Hebrews 12:2

The archegos, "founder" a 'hero,' a 'leader,' a 'pioneer,' or an 'army commander'

Someone had to go or we all would have perished. Jesus, the only One qualified to lead the way, gave his own Life to save ours. But He's alive, and we see Him there on the shore holding the rope for us.

And so we "lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely," and we "run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus," as we make our way safely home to Him!