

Paul Sails for Rome

Acts 27:1-28:16

PART FOUR: Shipwreck at Malta; 28:1-10

Introduction

v1

"Malta" means 'refuge.'

v2

"The native people" Gk barbaroi; 'barbarian; foreigner'

The capacity for, and ability to convey kindness and mercy lies innate in all human beings.

"unusual kindness"

Remnants of the image of God that remains in mankind

Even unbelieving pagans have the God-given capacity to extend kindness and do good things.

Romans 2:14-15

Christians, above all, are called to possess a heart of kindness that produces goodness.

Kindness is the internal desire for the peace, happiness, and well-being of others.

Goodness is the external action that helps bring that about.

They are listed together as "fruit of the Spirit" in Galatians 5:22.

Galatians 6:8b-10

Jesus, "went about doing good." Acts 10:38

1 Thessalonians 5:15

Titus 3:8b

Hebrews 13:16

Self-sacrificing, servant-hearted apostle Paul and the "viper" that could not stop him.

v3

Matthew 20:25-28

"a viper came out because of the heat and fastened on his hand."

Fickle, capricious, vacillating human nature and the goddess "Justice"

v4

Peoples' judgments can change from highly favorable to disfavor in an instant!

Acts 14:11-12

Acts 14:15

Acts 14:19

People should never be judged solely by their hardships, their failures, or their successes.

"Though he has escaped from the sea, Justice has not allowed him to live."

"Justice"

True justice is the right application of God's law.

True justice is defined by Him alone who is Just.

God's protection is promised to His children, but it operates within and according to His sovereign plan.

v5

Psalms 145:20

Luke 10:19

Divine protection is provided when faith/trust prevails.

Psalms 91:9-10

What was it that caused Paul to simply shake off the viper without shrieking or panic?

His unshakeable Faith (Acts 27:24-25).

If by faith you make God your "dwelling place" you will find "refuge" in Him when attacked.

Romans 16:20

v6 *They were waiting for him to swell up or suddenly fall down dead. But when they had waited a long time and saw no misfortune come to him, they changed their minds and said that he was a god.*

Psalms 107:23-28; 30-31