



When in a Crisis:  
“You Can Chill,  
Because You’re In  
God’s Will!”  
Acts 27:10-12

# There Are Three Kinds Of Crises/Storms That Occur In Our Lives

- 1) Storms/Crises the We Bring on Ourselves (Samson)**
- 2) Storms/Crises that God Allows to Happen to Us (Like physical ailments, the weather, aging)**
- 3) Storms/Crises That Others Cause, That Affects Us; Like Paul and Silas being beaten and placed in prison (these are particularly heartbreaking)(Judas is another example)**

**We know that Storms/Crises, many times, don't play favorites  
Christians face Storms/Crises like everybody else (Pandemic is everywhere)**

***"Yet man is born for trouble, As surely as the sparks fly upward." Job 5:7 (You can't escape every crisis)***

# How Should Christians Deal With a Storms/Crisis?

- We search the scriptures

*“According as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who has called us by glory (display) and virtue, 2 Peter 1:3*

*“What has been will be again, what has been done will be done again; there is nothing new under the sun.”  
Ecclesiastes 1:9*

- Therefore, we look to the scriptures:

For their principles that fit our crises, Proverbs 30:5

For their instructions that fit our crises, 2 Timothy 3:16

For examples of what God expects of us during our crises

# It's Insightful to Look at Paul's Trip as a Prisoner to Rome in Acts 27, for Present Crisis Instructions

- As Paul was being taken on the boat to Rome to be tried by the Romans, the sailing proved difficult; Acts 27:6-8
- They had stopped over at the Island of Crete and Paul gave his forecast on the safety of when to leave Crete:

***“Men, I can see that our voyage is going to be disastrous and bring great loss to the ship and cargo, and to our lives also.” But the centurion, instead of listening to what Paul said, followed the advice of the pilot and the owner of the ship. Since the harbor was unsuitable to winter in, the majority decided that we should sail on.....” Acts 27:10-12***

- Paul says, ***“it's not a good idea to sail now.”*** They could lose cargo and their lives. (It's also not a good idea to ease up on pandemic prevention ideas right now, from what we see)

**But They Decided to Sail on Anyway!  
(Bad Move)**

**There Are Three Reasons We Make Bad Decisions Today in  
a Storm/Crisis (Human Nature Hasn't Changed) Romans  
7:19-21**

**1) We accept Bad Advice From the So-Called “Experts”**

**2) We Draw the Wrong Conclusions About Our  
Circumstances**

**3) We Choose to Follow the Crowd**

# #1 Bad Advice From So Called “Experts”

***“But the centurion was more persuaded by the pilot and the captain ... than by what was being said by Paul.” Acts 27:11***

- We must ask the question: What drive was motivating the so called “experts?” The science of sailing was against them, vs 4-9 (contrary winds, difficulties, and dangerous)
- Some pandemic so called “experts” have caused needless national suffering due to “Personal motivational influences” (political influence, pride, personal gain, money, media followers)
- “Personal motivational influences” are also rampant in the religious world today, as they were in the days of the Apostle Paul
- This is why we advise believers to follow the research method of the Berean Jews when the “Expert,” Paul, spoke to them:

***Acts 17:11, “These were more noble than those of Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.”***

## #2 The Wrong Interpretation of the Circumstances

***“Since the harbor was unsuitable to winter in, the majority decided that we should sail on....” Acts 27:12***

***“When the gentle south wind began to blow (When a gentle southerly breeze came up), they saw their opportunity (pulled up anchor) and sailed close to the shore of Crete.” Acts 27:13***

**But the Weather Changed Drastically! Acts 27:14**

- How many of you have seen Alabama’s weather change quickly (the a.m. weather, hot/humid vs. the p.m. weather, thunderstorms)? You research the forecast and change plans.
- It’s crazy to ignore what God says, even if your present circumstances seem to contradict it
- Some say: ***“It’s a good decision because I feel good about it!”***

# Observations

- One true axiom about feelings is that they change
  - Your feelings can change faster than the weather
  - It was their feelings, not good scientific judgement, that sent their ship barreling into a dangerous storm, Acts 27:14-20
  - Folks, if God says *“wait in the harbor,”* it shouldn't matter what the circumstances say; *“wait on the Lord”* Isaiah 40:31
- “Beloved, believe not every spirit (don't believe everything you hear), but try (test, examine, weigh) the spirits whether they are of God; because many false prophets are gone out into the world.” 1 John 4:1*

**If the Best Choice Seems Sinful,  
Wait On a Better Choice!**



## #3 Follow the Crowd

*“Since the harbor was unsuitable to winter in, the majority decided that they should sail on.” Acts 27:12*

- The fact is, that the majority is often wrong
- When Moses led the Children of Israel out of Egypt, the majority of Israelites wanted to go back when they first encountered trouble at the Red Sea; Exodus 14:11-12
- The majority decision of the crowd is what Pontius Pilate asked for, when determining whether or not to crucify Jesus Christ, and thus He was crucified; Matthew 27:20-23
- The majority of people in our state want to remove mask protection during the rise of the Pandemic in the state (crazy)

# So How Did Paul “Chill” During His Crisis?

## #1 He Remembered God’s Presence; Acts 27:22-25

*“But now I urge you to keep your courage, because not one of you will be lost; only the ship will be destroyed. Last night the angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I serve stood beside me and said, ‘Do not be afraid, Paul. You must stand trial before Caesar; and God has graciously given you the lives of all who sail with you.’ So keep up your courage, men, for I have faith in God that it will happen just as he told me....”*

- Christians never go through anything by themselves
- The storms of life don’t keep God away from our doors.
- We may not see Him, but He sees us
- *“For He Himself hath said, I will never leave you nor forsake you. So we may boldly say the Lord ....” Hebrews 13:5*

## #2 He Remembered God's Purpose; Acts 27:23-24

*An angel told Paul in the midst of his crisis in the sea storm, 'Do not be afraid Paul. You must stand before Caesar...'*

- God had informed Paul that He had a plan for his life
- God's plan was that Paul go to Rome and preach to Caesar
- Paul was therefore assured that this storm was temporary
- Every Christian ought to have a sense of destiny (you're not here just to use God's oxygen and eat God's food) Jer. 29:11

**No One Can Change God's Plans for Your Life**

**Unless You Choose to Disobey Him!**

**If You Choose to Disobey His Plans for You, He Will Allow You To! (Hebrews 5:8-9)**

# #3 He Remembered God's Promise to Him

## Acts 27:25

*“So keep up your courage, men, for I have faith in God that it will happen just as He told me.”*

- Paul remembered the promise that God gave him
- Therefore, He knew that his life wouldn't end by drowning in the ocean in his sea storm crisis
- Folks, Storms/Crisis may distract us, and your present storm may be overwhelming, causing you to think that you may drown (get wet, lose cargo, lose resources, lose the ship)

***But You Will Make It Because of the Promises  
of God in Your Life!***

***Romans 8:35-39***

***Because Jesus Keeps His Promises,  
Death for the Christian is Just a Good  
Night's Sleep!***

***Revelations 14:13***

# The Plan of Salvation

<b>Hear the Gospel</b>	<b>Acts 15:7</b>
<b>Believe the Gospel</b>	<b>Acts 15:7</b>
<b>Repent of Sins</b>	<b>Acts 17:30</b>
<b>Confess Christ</b>	<b>Acts 8:37</b>
<b>Be Baptized</b>	<b>Acts 8:38</b>