

Study Notes and Questions for Acts 27-29

- How could Paul, a prisoner, take it upon himself to advise the ship's captain and the centurion, encourage and exhort the crew and passengers, and so on?
- Think about each of Paul's comments and actions. What do you learn about him (his gifts, character, beliefs, attitudes toward people, view of God, and so on)?
- What do you think the angel meant by saying that God had graciously given Paul the lives of his fellow passengers (see 27:24)? What does this show that Paul had been doing?
- In what specific area does Paul's role in the storm and wreck stand out as an example for you?
- How can you imitate Paul's attitude toward danger, stress, and hardship?
- In your opinion, why did Luke describe the ship voyage to Rome at such length—longer than Paul's time in Corinth or Ephesus? What was so important about this episode?
- Why was it so important to Luke to show how Paul related to the Jews?
- What was the point of the prophecy from Isaiah that Paul quoted?
- In what way were the Jews responsible for their blindness and deafness to the gospel? Did they want to turn and be healed but God refused, or did they not want this and God gave them their way?
- How did Paul spend his time in Rome while awaiting an audience with the Emperor?
- Why do you think Luke wrote so little about the church in Rome and how did his choice of information in 28:17–31 serve his overall goal for the book of Acts?
- Why do you think Luke ended Acts where he did? What does this tell you about the theme of Acts?
- **Final study note:** The story of Acts does not end with the death of Paul, for he is not the only witness Jesus sent "to the ends of the earth" (1:8). But for Luke, who accompanied Paul on his voyage to face Caesar's court, Paul typifies the ambassador of Jesus representing his Lord in every circumstance. Paul has faced a king, governors, scornful philosophers, and lynch mobs; the final stage of his journey held no more terror for him than those.