

“WHAT TO DO WHEN ALL HOPE IS LOST” (Acts 27)

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INTRO: Has your hope taken some hard hits recently? If so, how can you respond and have your hope restored? In Acts 27, Paul was on a ship headed for Rome because he appealed to Caesar at his trial for preaching the gospel. What challenges are you facing?

I. WHO ARE YOU LISTENING TO (vv. 9-12; Psalm 1)?

- A. Inclement weather made sailing dangerous (v. 9).
- B. We are facing spiritually inclement weather.
- C. Don't walk in the counsel of the ungodly (Psalm 1)!

II. WALKING IN THE COUNSEL OF THE UNGODLY OFTEN LEADS TO SHIPWRECK (vv. 13-19).

- A. What looks like smooth sailing at first can be deceiving (vv. 13-15).
- B. When you walk in the counsel of the ungodly you will eventually run into Euroclydon and lose control (v. 15).

III. DELAYS OFTEN RESULT IN HOPELESSNESS (vv. 20-21).

- A. They lost hope when the storm didn't let up (v. 20).
- B. Have delays resulted in you losing hope (Prov. 13:12)?

IV. HOPE FOR YOUR HOPELESSNESS (vv. 22-26)

- A. Take heart – be encouraged (vv. 22, 25; Heb. 6:19)!
- B. Stand on God's Word.
- C. Get a word from God (vv. 23-26).
- D. Expect challenges along the way but persevere.

V. WALKING OUT THE PROPHETIC WORD (vv. 27-44).

- A. Exercise faith and perseverance.
- B. Trust the process.
- C. Do you need to lighten your load (vv. 18, 38, 40)?
- D. The prophetic words were all fulfilled as spoken!

CONCLUSION: We face many challenges in life. Who are you listening to? Don't walk in the counsel of the ungodly (Ps. 1:1) or it may lead to shipwreck. Walk in the counsel of God's Word and the godly. Don't allow delays to steal your hope. Take heart! Trust in God! Get a word from God and hold on to it! Walk out your prophetic word. Persevere in faith. Trust the process.