

“WHEN ALL HOPE IS LOST” (Acts 27)

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INTRO: What does your hope gauge read? Paul had been arrested for preaching the gospel and was put on a ship with other prisoners headed for Rome where he would appear before Caesar. While in Fair Havens, Paul perceived that they shouldn't leave, or they would be in danger. The captain listened to the majority rather than Paul (vv. 9-12).

I. WHO YOU LISTEN TO CAN IMPACT YOUR HOPE (vv. 9-12).

- A. Who are you listening to for advice and what to believe?
- B. We should walk in the counsel of God's Word rather than the counsel of the ungodly (Psalm 1).

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

- A. When they put out to sea, it looked like smooth sailing, but eventually a terrible storm came up and they lost control of the ship (vv. 13-19).
- B. When you walk in the counsel of the ungodly you eventually run into storms and lose control.

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

- A. When the storm didn't let up, they lost all hope (Prov. 13:12).

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

- A. Paul told them to take heart and not fear because an angel told him no one would die, but they would lose the ship and run aground on an island (see Heb. 6:19).
- B. Get a word from God!

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

- A. Just as Paul had shared, they lost the ship but they all made it to shore safely.
- B. Prophetic words will typically be tested and will require us to walk by faith, obedience and persistence.
- C. What happened on that island? We'll find out next week in Acts 28!

CONCLUSION: Has your hope taken a hit in 2024? Walk in the counsel of God's Word rather than the ungodly. Take heart! Do not be afraid! Have high hopes for 2025!