

## Battle on the High Seas Acts 27:1-20

### Introduction

Who would oppose Paul going to Rome? Jews? Christians? Romans?

These might have mild reasons for opposing this move.

Darkness opposed him. They knew God's purpose!

### I. Darkness is always combating your efforts to spread the Gospel.

- A. God determines to place you where you are to serve Him.
  - 1. God had promised Paul that he would testify in Rome. [23:11]
  - 2. God was bringing this about through Paul's arrest & trial.
  - 3. He has this authority over darkness.
- B. The Kingdom of darkness will oppose you in fulfilling God's will.
  - 1. Luke's thorough account of the trip is to show this opposition.
  - 2. God and Satan may both use the same event. [1S 24:1; 1C 21:1]
  - 3. Satan seeks to destroy you while God tests & proves you.
- C. The Kingdom of darkness tries to hide God's mercy from you.
  - 1. It seeks to discourage you by discomfort; comfort is not mercy.
  - 2. Mercy is deliverance from the trouble you deserve.
  - 3. Call on Him for mercy; seek Him (not comfort) w/ all your heart.
- D. Remember that God is incomparably greater than Satan.
  - 1. God and Satan are not equals; Satan is a created being.
  - 2. The battle is not a denial of God's omnipotence.
  - 3. Instead God tests you to have you seek Him.

### II. In the midst of this conflict God gives you encouragement.

- A. He gives you fellowship.
  - 1. Luke & Aristarchus joined Paul. [19:29; 20:4; Col. 4:2; Ph. 24]
  - 2. God did not call you to be 'lone ranger' Christians.
  - 3. He made you to be a part of His body joined to Christ.
- B. He enables you to encourage the saints.
  - 1. Even in suffering you are able to encourage others.
  - 2. God expects you to consider others better than yourselves.
  - 3. Always look to the needs of others.
- C. He assures you of your ultimate goal.
  - 1. Paul was assured of Rome
  - 2. God promises eternal life to you who fear Him.
  - 3. He gives you His Spirit as the guarantee of eternal life.

### Conclusion

This battle will continue to rage until Christ returns. Enter it.

Know that because of Christ's work, His victory is assured.

God is mightier than the churning of the seas.

**Psalms 46C, 107D, 93A**