

Study Guide January 28th, 2007: The Perfect Storm. Acts 27:1-26.

Introduction: Have you ever despaired of your life? When? How were you delivered?

I. Along the coasts to Fair Havens: (Acts 27:1-8)

- A. With the help of a map, trace Paul's route from Caesarea to Fair Havens (Crete). Why do you think they stayed so close to the shore?
- B. Who is in charge on ship? How would you describe his treatment of Paul?
- C. Who is with Paul? (Col. 4:10 & Philem. 23)
- D. What happened at Myra in Lycia? Describe the next leg of the journey? (vs.6-8)

II. Finding a suitable winter harbor: (Acts 27:9-12)

- A. What harbor is determined to be the best place to spend the winter? (Note: Shipping becomes more dangerous in winter because of increased storms)
- B. What is Paul's warning to the centurion? (II Cor. 11:25. Note Paul's experience)
- C. How will God use this warning by Paul later in the journey? (see vs. 21-26)
- D. Relate a time when an unheeded warning later led to openness to the truth.

III. The Storm hits: (Acts 27:13-20)

- A. What efforts are put forth by the crew to weather the storm? What was the result?
- B. Describe the attitude on the ship as a result of the storm. (vs. 20)
- C. Read II Cor. 1:9-11. Although this refers to a different experience, what is gained?
- D. When was the last time you felt you gave up all hope? How did God intervene?

IV. Hope of deliverance: (Acts 27:21-26)

- A. What is gained by Paul's "I told you so," in vs. 21?
- B. What had God revealed to Paul? What would the ship and those on board face?
- C. When has the faith of someone else inspired you to believe God and act?
- D. Reflect on Is. 43:1-3. In what current situations do you want God's deliverance?