

God's Help Among Our Hurdles When We Recognize

1 And when it was determined that we should sail into Italy, they delivered Paul and certain other prisoners unto one named Julius, a centurion of Augustus' band. **2** And entering into a ship of Adramyttium, we launched, meaning to sail by the coasts of Asia; one Aristarchus, a Macedonian of Thessalonica, being with us. **3** And the next day we touched at Sidon. And Julius courteously entreated Paul, and gave him liberty to go unto his friends to refresh himself. **4** And when we had launched from thence, we sailed under Cyprus, because the winds were contrary. **5** And when we had sailed over the sea of Cilicia and Pamphylia, we came to Myra, a city of Lycia. **6** And there the centurion found a ship of Alexandria sailing into Italy; and he put us therein. **7** And when we had sailed slowly many days, and scarce were come over against Cnidus, the wind not suffering us, we sailed under Crete, over against Salmone; **8** And, hardly passing it, came unto a place which is called The fair havens; nigh whereunto was the city of Lasea. **9** Now when much time was spent, and when sailing was now dangerous, because the fast was now already past, Paul admonished them, **10** And said unto them, Sirs, I perceive that this voyage will be with hurt and much damage, not only of the lading and ship, but also of our lives. **11** Nevertheless the centurion believed the master and the owner of the ship, more than those things which were spoken by Paul. **12** And because the haven was not commodious to winter in, the more part advised to depart thence also, if by any means they might attain to Phenice, and there to winter; which is an haven of Crete, and lieth toward the south west and north west.

Our companions are battling like us, with us, and for us.

- Philippians 1:29 – For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake;
- 1 Peter 4:12-13 – **12** Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you: **13** But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy.

Our commute is difficult, dragging, and dangerous

Our counsel is for safety, shrugged off, and simplified

- James 1:2-4 – **2** My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; **3** Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. **4** But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

God's Hope Among Our Hopelessness When We Are Prepared for

13 And when the south wind blew softly, supposing that they had obtained their purpose, loosing thence, they sailed close by Crete. **14** But not long after there arose against it a tempestuous wind, called Euroclydon. **15** And when the ship was caught, and could not bear up into the wind, we let her drive. **16** And running under a certain island which is called Clauda, we had much work to come by the boat: **17** Which when they had taken up, they used helps, undergirding the ship; and, fearing lest they should fall into the quicksands, strake sail, and so were driven. **18** And we being exceedingly tossed with a tempest, the next day they lightened the ship; **19** And the third day we cast out with our own hands the tackling of the ship. **20** And when neither sun nor stars in many days appeared, and no small tempest lay on us, all hope that we should be

saved was then taken away. **21** But after long abstinence Paul stood forth in the midst of them, and said, *Sirs, ye should have hearkened unto me, and not have loosed from Crete, and to have gained this harm and loss.* **22** And now I exhort you to be of good cheer: for there shall be no loss of *any man's* life among you, but of the ship. **23** For there stood by me this night the angel of God, whose I am, and whom I serve, **24** Saying, Fear not, Paul; thou must be brought before Caesar: and, lo, God hath given thee all them that sail with thee. **25** Wherefore, sirs, be of good cheer: for I believe God, that it shall be even as it was told me. **26** Howbeit we must be cast upon a certain island.

The storm's deception that causes defeat and discouragement

The saint's direction that is corrective, informative, and prescriptive

- Matthew 24:13 – *But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.*
- 1 Corinthians 15:58 – Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.

God's Honor Among Our Horror When We Accept That

27 But when the fourteenth night was come, as we were driven up and down in Adria, about midnight the shipmen deemed that they drew near to some country; **28** And *sounded, and found it twenty fathoms*: and when they had gone a little further, they *sounded again, and found it fifteen fathoms.* **29** Then *fearing lest we should have fallen upon rocks, they cast four anchors out of the stern, and wished for the day.* **30** And *as the shipmen were about to flee out of the ship,* when they had let down the boat into the sea, under colour as though they would have cast anchors out of the foreship, **31** *Paul said to the centurion and to the soldiers, Except these abide in the ship, ye cannot be saved.* **32** *Then the soldiers cut off the ropes of the boat, and let her fall off.* **33** And while the day was coming on, *Paul besought them all to take meat, saying, This day is the fourteenth day that ye have tarried and continued fasting, having taken nothing.* **34** Wherefore I pray you to take *some* meat: for this is for your health: for there shall not an hair fall from the head of any of you. **35** And when he had thus spoken, he took bread, and gave thanks to God in presence of them all: and when he had broken *it*, he began to eat. **36** Then were they all of good cheer, and they also took *some* meat. **37** And we were in all in the ship two hundred threescore and sixteen souls. **38** And *when they had eaten enough*, they lightened the ship, and cast out the wheat into the sea. **39** And when it was day, they knew not the land: but *they discovered a certain creek with a shore, into the which they were minded, if it were possible, to thrust in the ship.* **40** And when *they had taken up the anchors, they committed themselves* unto the sea, and loosed the rudder bands, and hoised up the mainsail to the wind, and made toward shore. **41** And falling into a place where two seas met, *they ran the ship aground; and the forepart stuck fast, and remained unmoveable, but the hinder part was broken with the violence of the waves.* **42** And the soldiers' counsel was to kill the prisoners, lest any of them should swim out, and escape. **43** But the centurion, willing to save Paul, kept them from *their* purpose; and commanded that they which could swim should cast *themselves* first into the sea, and get to land: **44** And the rest, some on boards, and some on *broken pieces* of the ship. And so it came to pass, that they escaped all safe to land.

The Reflection of God Determines the Reaction

- John 3:16 – *For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.*
- John 8:24 – *I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins.*
- Acts 4:12 – Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.
- 1 Corinthians 3:11 – For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

The Response to God Depends on Hunger

- Matthew 14:19 – And he commanded the multitude to sit down on the grass, and took the five loaves, and the two fishes, and looking up to heaven, he blessed, and brake, and gave the loaves to *his* disciples, and the disciples to the multitude.
- Mark 6:41 – And when he had taken the five loaves and the two fishes, he looked up to heaven, and blessed, and brake the loaves, and gave *them* to his disciples to set before them; and the two fishes divided he among them all.

The Readiness for God Directs One to Safety

- 2 Corinthians 1:10 – Who delivered us from so great a death, and doth deliver: in whom we trust that he will yet deliver *us*;
- 2 Timothy 4:18 – And the Lord shall deliver me from every evil work, and will preserve *me* unto his heavenly kingdom: to whom *be* glory for ever and ever. Amen.
- Psalm 28:7 – The Lord *is* my strength and my shield; My heart trusted in him, and I am helped: Therefore my heart greatly rejoiceth; And with my song will I praise him.
- Isaiah 41:10 – Fear thou not; for I *am* with thee: Be not dismayed; for I *am* thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; Yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.