

THE OTHER SIDE OF THE ATTACK

(Part 2 of SHAKE IT OFF! — From Snakebite to Shaking an Empire)

Acts 28:30-31 (NKJV) - Then Paul dwelt two whole years in his own rented house, and received all who came to him, preaching the kingdom of God and teaching the things which concern the Lord Jesus Christ with all confidence, no one forbidding him.”

INTRO – THE ATTACK WAS A SETUP FOR THE ASSIGNMENT

Let’s be honest — when Paul shook off that snake, the island of Malta thought that was the miracle. But the snake bite wasn’t the end of the story — it was the beginning of the assignment.

The storm? The wreck? The bite? Those weren’t the enemy’s real goal.



They were just attempts to stop what was on the other side of the attack.

The enemy didn’t fight Paul because of Malta. The enemy fought Paul because of Rome. Because if Paul could get to Rome — the center of the world — the Gospel could go everywhere. And if the Gospel went everywhere... hell’s kingdom would start crumbling.

The real battle wasn’t the storm. The real battle wasn’t the snake. The real battle was about the assignment — and what would happen when Paul fulfilled it.

And here’s what I came to preach:



There’s something on the other side of your attack that is so powerful, so dangerous to darkness, that hell is terrified you’ll make it there.

POINT 1: The Battle Was About the Breakthrough

ROME WAS THE REAL TARGET ALL ALONG ...

Rome wasn’t just geography — it was global influence.

Rome wasn’t just a city — it was the city.

The heartbeat of empire.

The center of law, culture, military power.

What spread from Rome reached the entire known world.

That's why Paul said in Acts 19:21, "I must also see Rome."

God sent Paul to the place of greatest influence so the Gospel could go global.

The storm tried to stop him.

The snake tried to silence him.

But the mission could not be stopped.

🔥 Hell doesn't fight your past — it fights your purpose.

"Satan doesn't mind you surviving Malta—he's terrified you'll make it to Rome."

"The size of your storm reveals the size of your assignment."

"God's plans will always outpace the enemy's attacks."

POINT 2: The Chains Became the Channel

When Paul reached Rome, history didn't record him leading protests, building monuments, or forming an army.

He did something eternal: He wrote the letters that would shape the church for all generations.

From that prison house in Rome came:

Ephesians — the revelation of the church as the body and bride of Christ, seated in heavenly places.

Philippians — joy in the midst of chains, and the declaration that "every knee will bow..."

Colossians — the supremacy of Christ over all creation.

Philemon — the power of forgiveness and reconciliation.

🔥 Paul couldn't reach the world in person — so God used the attack to sit him down and give him a pen that would reach us today.

The snake bite didn't stop Paul.

The chains didn't stop Paul.

And now, we're holding in our hands the revelation that flowed from that prison.

The attack produced the platform for the greatest downloads of divine truth ever written by man.

God used confinement to release revelation.

The greatest words ever written were born out of the worst seasons ever endured.

Sometimes God slows you down so He can speak through you louder.

POINT 3: The Message Triggered a Movement

Paul's preaching and writing in Rome:

Reached soldiers, slaves, and Caesar's own household (Philippians 4:22).

Lit a fire of faith in the heart of the city.

Spread through the empire faster than Caesar's decrees.

🔥 The Gospel turned Rome upside down — not by sword, but by Spirit.

So much so that:

Nero, enraged at how Christianity was spreading, burned the city and blamed the Christians to try and stop it.

Tacitus wrote that Christians were tortured, fed to beasts, and burned as human torches in Nero's gardens.

But the fire of faith kept spreading:

🔥 "The blood of the martyrs is the seed of the church." — Tertullian

The harder they fought the Gospel, the further it advanced.

You can burn our buildings, but you can't bury the truth.

The church doesn't die in fire—it spreads in it.

Persecution doesn't silence the church—it amplifies her witness.

POINT 4: The Revelation Outlived the Resistance

Think about it:

We sit here today because Paul made it to Rome.

Because he endured the storm.

Because he shook off the snake.

Because he didn't quit in the chains.

The letters he wrote in Rome:

Shaped Christian theology.

Built the foundation of church doctrine.

Declared to the world that Christ is Lord — not Caesar.

🔥 “Your fight will be worth it because what God produces through you will outlive you.”

Paul's words crossed oceans, empires, centuries — and they're still turning the world upside down today.

Your obedience today will bless generations you'll never meet

POINT 5: The Mission Was Greater Than the Martyrdom

Paul didn't escape death. He didn't get earthly glory. But his life shook empires and his words still shake the gates of hell.

When the sword finally came:

Paul went out preaching, history says, even converting his executioners.

🔥 Jerome said: “His head fell beneath the sword, but his voice rang out through the world.”

That's the kind of life God is calling us to. Not safe. Not soft. Not small. But unstoppable. Unchained. Unashamed.

🔥 The goal isn't ease — it's impact. The goal isn't comfort — it's Kingdom.

Heaven doesn't measure success in safety—it measures it in surrender.

If the mission costs you everything—it's still worth more than anything.

You were never called to play it safe—you were called to turn cities upside down.”

CLOSING CHARGE: WALK LIKE THE UNSTOPPABLE FORCE YOU ARE

🔥 I'm not here to tell you that being a Christian is painless. I'm here to tell you that it's powerful beyond measure.

🔥 You're not just called to survive the attack. You're called to shake the empire. You're called to carry revelation that changes generations. You're called to be a demonstration of another world's power in this one.

So walk like a man or woman on a mission.

Fight like your scars are badges of honor.

Stand like no weapon formed against you can prosper.

You are not ordinary. You are anointed to disrupt darkness.

You are God's weapon in enemy territory.

This is your Rome moment — step into it with fire.

CROWD DECLARATION

🔥 The fight is worth it!

🔥 The revelation will outlive me!”

🔥 The Gospel in me is unstoppable!

🔥 I'm here to shake my world for Jesus!

ALTAR CALL MOMENT

Stand up if you're ready to let God use every attack, every storm, every scar — to bring revival on the other side of your pain. Stand if you're ready to trade comfort for calling, safety for significance.

This is our Rome moment. Let's shake the world.