



DAY 22

CHEER UP, DO NOT FEAR

“And now I advise you to cheer up, for there will be no loss of life among you, but only of the ship. For this very night an angel of the God whose I am and whom I serve stood by me, saying, Do not fear, Paul; you must stand before Caesar. And behold, God has granted you all those who are sailing with you.”

Acts 27:22-24

When reading this chapter you wouldn't think that Paul was in prison during this time. In this portion we see that Paul here was living the very life that he aspired to live in Philippians 3. In that chapter, Paul says that he pressed on, pursued Christ in order to be found in Him. (Phil. 3:9-12)

Throughout a rough and difficult voyage, Paul lived a life of ascendancy and dignity and full of wisdom. Although he was a prisoner, he behaved like a king. Furthermore he had foresight and wisdom to handle certain matters. No doubt, the Lord was with Paul. On the one hand, he was a prisoner. One among two hundred seventy-six passengers. On the other hand, he was the center, the focus, of the situation, whether on the ship or on the island where they wintered after the ship was destroyed. In every circumstance Paul lived a life of ascendancy.

Many times we find ourselves in our own personal prison. But we need to remember that God is with us and we should pursue Him and take Paul as our pattern and example. Our Lord puts us in different environments so that we can choose Him and be found in Him.

Prayer: “Lord Jesus, I praise You and thank You for all the different environments and situations that you put me in. Lord, thank You for Paul and I pray You would make me today's Paul. One who is found in You regardless of the environment and one who lives a life of ascendancy. Amen.”