



*Go for God!*

## **“Survivor for the Savior!”**

### **ACTS Chapter 28**

#### **> Three Keys to Survival:**

**(v1-6) Beware of the Snake!**

**(v7-10) Proclaim the Savior!**

**(v11-31) Receive Salvation!**

#### **> Survival key #1 - (v1-6) Beware of the Snake!**

- **Satan’s Poison: Pride & Rebellion** - Genesis 3:1-5- *Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, "Has God indeed said, 'You shall not eat of every tree of the garden'?" And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden; but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God has said, 'You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die.'" Then the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."*

- **Lies & Deception** - 2 Corinthians 11:3-4- *But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ. For if he who comes preaches another Jesus whom we have not preached, or if you receive a different spirit which you have not received, or a different gospel which you have not accepted -- you may well put up with it!*

- **God’s Antidote: Faith in Christ** - Numbers 21:8-9 - *Then the LORD said to Moses, "Make a fiery serpent, and set it on a pole; and it shall be that everyone who is bitten, when he looks at it, shall live." So Moses made a bronze serpent, and put it on a pole; and so it was, if a serpent had bitten anyone, when he looked at the bronze serpent, he lived.*

**John 3:14-17-** *And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.*

- **Paul’s survival according to the words of Christ** - Mark 16:17-18- *And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover."*

> Survival key #2 - (v7-10) Proclaim the Savior!

Paul prayed & people were healed. Understanding the “healing hand of God”-

(1) Pray - John 15:7-8 - *If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.*

(2) Practice - John 15:16-17 - *You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you.*

(3) A perpetual gift - 1 Corinthians 1:4-9 - *I thank my God always concerning you for the grace of God which was given to you by Christ Jesus, that you were enriched in everything by Him in all utterance and all knowledge, even as the testimony of Christ was confirmed in you, so that you come short in no gift, eagerly waiting for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ, who will also confirm you to the end, that you may be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.*

(4) God’s personal choice - 1 Corinthians 12:9,11 - *to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit . . . But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.*

(5) Church participation - James 5:14-15 - *Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up.*

(6) God’s sovereign possibilities - 2 Corinthians 12:7-10 - *And lest I should be exalted above measure by the abundance of the revelations, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, a messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I be exalted above measure. Concerning this thing I pleaded with the Lord three times that it might depart from me. And He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness." Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ's sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong.*

> Survival key #3 - (v11-31) Receive the Salvation of God!

(v11-16) Always be thankful to God- 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 - *Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.*

(v17-28) To be persuaded or disbelieve - Jesus also quoted Isaiah 6:9-10 in the “Parable of the Sower” - Matthew 13:1-23, (Seeds on the “wayside”- Hard heart;

on the “stony places” - Shallow heart; among the “thorns”- Unfaithful heart; on the “good ground” - producing fruit thirty, sixty, & one hundred fold.)

(v30-31) Acts 28:30-31 - *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.*

- Paul’s personal testimony- 2 Timothy 1:8-12- *Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me His prisoner, but share with me in the sufferings for the gospel according to the power of God, who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began, but has now been revealed by the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ, who has abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel, to which I was appointed a preacher, an apostle, and a teacher of the Gentiles. For this reason I also suffer these things; nevertheless I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that Day.*