

•1 Now when they had escaped, they then found out that the island was called Malta. 2 And the natives showed us unusual kindness; for they kindled a fire and made us all welcome, because of the rain that was falling and because of the cold. 3 But when Paul had gathered a bundle of sticks and laid them on the fire, a viper came out because of the heat, and fastened on his hand. 4 So when the natives saw the creature hanging from his hand, they said to one another, “No doubt this man is a murderer, whom, though he has escaped the sea, yet justice does not allow to live.” 5 But he shook off the creature into the fire and suffered no harm. 6 However, they were expecting that he would swell up or suddenly fall down dead. But after they had looked for a long time and saw no harm come to him, they changed their minds and said that he was a god. Acts 28:1-6

•**There is a level of fire that Satan CAN hide in.**

•He has been to church more times than some people.

•But when the level of fire increases, it flushes out hidden things.

•*Satan is not disturbed by our mediocre church of today. Our religious routines are no threat to the kingdom of darkness.*

• **But the moment we break out of NORMAL CHURCH, and start doing SUPERNATURAL, EXTRAORDINARY, UNUSUAL CHURCH, hell is shaken to the core.**

•When we start praying, when the level of praise increases, when people start evangelizing, and when the altar fills up with hungry souls... That's not business as usual!

The snakes are in the wood

•You can't do anything about it, they're just there.

•You can't lived your life paralyzed by what might be there.

•**Not everything that looks good is good.**

•*You need to thank God for protection. Things happen that you don't even have time to pray about.*

1 Now when they had escaped,

•*Don't let your guard down!*

•**Any time you start doing something with purpose and passion for God, the snakes come out.**

•The snake attacked when Paul was tired.

•You get bit while serving

•You get bit when there's fire.

•***What do you do when serving God gets you in trouble?***

•Stood up for the right and got bit.

He won't stop the snake from biting you.

• **But, He'll keep it from killing you!**

•*MANY are the AFFLICTIONS of the RIGHTEOUS...*

•***5 But he shook off the creature into the fire and suffered no harm.***

•*Snake locks its jaws.*

•**Fastened**

• **Somebody's watching to see... Will you run from the fire or will you run to the fire?!**

•You've been allowing somethings to hang on you...

•Rejection, criticism, crisis, self pity, bitterness, worry

•**You need the Spirit Of Shake**

•If you get rejected, you have to shake it off your and keep it moving!

• **The same fire that drove the snake out was the same fire he used to kill it.**

•**6 However, they were expecting that he would swell up or suddenly fall down dead. But after they had looked for a long time and saw no harm come to him, they changed their minds and said that he was a god. Acts 28:1-6**

•**SOME PEOPLE EXPECTED YOU TO FAIL AND CAN'T STAND THE FACT THAT YOU DIDN'T...**

•God allowed Paul to be bitten publicly. There are some things that God has allowed to bite you because people are watching.

•*A snake bites Paul, so they think he's a criminal. He doesn't fall dead, so they think he's a god. Beware of human polls.*

•**Some peoples only exercise is jumping to conclusions and running down relatives.**

•**You should have died, but your still standing.**

• ***How can they handle that?* Because that's not the first time they've been bit!**

•**All that you've been through... Still standing!**

•Came in today- Snake hanging on your arm, still standing.

•*Through the storm...*

•*Through the divorce...*

•Daughter OD'd...

•Laid off....

•Touch somebody and tell them, **"I'm still standing!"**

• **If you're still STANDING give God a praise!**

God didn't bring Paul through a shipwreck to let him die from a snakebite...

•Caesar- I got a word in the storm that kept me from the fear of the snake.

• **It was the STORM that gave me the faith to SHAKE OFF THE SNAKE!!!**

•The storm was bigger than the snake. But if the devil couldn't kill him with the EXTERNAL he try to get something INTERNAL!

•But God didn't bring you through the storm so you could die with the snake.

•If God anointed you to survive the storm He has certainly anointed you to shake off that rejection, that bitterness...

•7 In that region there was an estate of the leading citizen of the island, whose name was Publius, who received us and entertained us courteously for three days. 8 And it happened that the father of Publius lay sick of a fever and dysentery. Paul went in to him

and prayed, and he laid his hands on him and healed him. 9 So when this was done, the rest of those on the island who had diseases also came and were healed. Acts 28:7-9

•Why did the snake come after him at this point? There was a strong hold of sickness.

•**The Storm and the Snake were just a setup to him being someone else's miracle!**

•**What if the thing the devil is using to attack you with is the thing that God has anointed you to destroy?**

• **THE SAME HAND!!!**

•**Devil- I came to tell you that the same hand.... That's the hand I'm going to use to fight back!**

•**He bit it because he didn't want you to use it!**

•**That's why he hit your finances, marriage, kids...**

•18And he said unto them, I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven. 19Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you. Luke 10:18-19