

# UNSTOPPABLE

## The Mission of God in the Book of Acts



SEASON 3: THE ENDS OF THE EARTH

### Rome at Last!

Acts 28:1-16

October 18, 2026

### The path to Rome follows the path of Redemption.

The story of Redemption

- 1) a snake and a curse (1-6)
- 2) hope and healing (7-10)
- 3) fellowship and fulfillment (11-16)

| Event                    | Approximate Date            | Context                                                                          |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Writing of Romans        | Winter AD 56–57             | Composed while in Corinth; sent ahead to the Roman church via Phoebe (Rom 16:1). |
| Arrest in Jerusalem      | Spring/Summer AD 57         | Paul arrives with the relief collection and is arrested at the Temple.           |
| Imprisonment in Caesarea | AD 57–59                    | Held in custody for two years before appealing to Caesar.                        |
| Voyage & Shipwreck       | Autumn AD 59 – Winter AD 60 | Transported by ship; shipwrecked on Malta for three months.                      |
| Arrival in Rome          | Spring AD 60                | Arrives in Rome in custody (Acts 28:16) to await trial before Nero.              |

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**ICE BREAKER:** Where is the place you long to visit or live and why?

### DISCUSSION

How does Paul's preservation from the viper's bite illustrate God's sovereign power over the consequences of a fallen world? How does this encounter point us toward Christ, the ultimate serpent crusher (Genesis 3:15)?

Throughout Acts, God used miraculous signs and healings to authenticate the gospel message and demonstrate His compassion. What do these healings reveal about God's character and His redemptive purposes? How does the physical healing of the sick point toward the greater spiritual healing available through Jesus Christ?

Paul finally arrived and was encouraged by the fellowship of believers. What does Paul's arrival in Rome and his encouragement by the fellowship of believers teach us about God's faithfulness to His promises, even when the journey is difficult or takes longer than expected?

### **PRAY**

- Thank God for bringing us from spiritual death into new life through Christ.
- Ask God to increase your longing for heaven and the presence of Christ.

### **ASSESS**

Where are you currently experiencing the effects of living in a fallen world? How does the victory of Christ over sin and death change your perspective on those circumstances?

What earthly hopes, goals, or desires tend to capture more of your attention and affection than the promise of eternity with Christ?

### **APPLY**

Paul remained faithful to his calling regardless of his circumstances or stage of life. How can you more intentionally use your current season of life (first quarter, halftime, or the final minutes) to point others toward the hope and redemption found in Christ?

### **PRAY:**

- Pray for opportunities to demonstrate Christ's compassion to those experiencing suffering and brokenness.
- Pray that temporary circumstances and earthly ambitions would not distract you from eternal priorities.