

Acts 27:1 – 28:13

27:1 – sail	(verb)	travel on the sea by ship
27:1 – centurion	(noun)	a soldier with authority over one hundred soldiers
27:1 – Imperial	(adjective)	connected with the (Roman) empire
27:1 – regiment	(noun)	a large group of soldiers that is commanded by a colonel
27:2 – ports	(noun)	towns or rivers by the sea which have a harbour
27:4 – lee	(noun)	a place that gives shelter from wind or bad weather
27:5 – open sea	(expression)	the sea that is away from any coastlines and bays
27:6 – on board	(expression)	on/in a ship
27:7 – make headway	(phrase)	progress towards achieving something
27:10 – voyage	(noun)	a long journey by ship
27:10 – disastrous	(adjective)	has extremely bad consequences
27:10 – cargo	(noun)	the goods that a ship is carrying
27:11 – pilot	(noun)	someone who steers a ship through a difficult section of water
27:12 – harbour	(noun)	an area of the sea at the coast which is partly enclosed by land or strong walls, where boats can be left safely
27:13 – obtained	(verb)	got; achieved
27:13 – ‘weighed anchor’		raise a ship’s anchor in preparation for departure
27:13 – anchor	(noun)	



27:14 – hurricane	(noun)	an extremely violent wind or storm
27:14 – swept	(verb)	moved past very quickly
27:16 – lifeboat	(noun)	a small boat on a larger ship that is used by people on the ship to escape the ship when there is danger of sinking
27:17 – hoisted	(verb)	lifted something heavy into a higher position
27:17 – aboard	(adverb)	on/in a ship
27:18 – battering	(noun)	severe suffering as the result of a particular event or action
27:18 – overboard	(adverb)	over the side of a boat into the water
27:19 – tackle	(noun)	equipment such as ropes and pulleys, needed for lifting or pulling something

27:20 – raging	(verb)	moving violently
27:21 – spared	(verb)	not harmed
27:22 – courage	(noun)	the quality shown by someone who decides to do something difficult or dangerous, even though they may be afraid
27:23 – angel	(noun)	a spiritual being who serves God and his people
27:24 – stand trial	(phrase)	tried in a court for a crime they are accused of
27:24 – graciously	(adverb)	in a way that shows undeserved kindness to another person
27:26 – aground	(adverb)	(a ship) gets stuck in shallow water
27:27 – sensed	(verb)	became aware of or realised something
27:28 – soundings	(noun)	acts of taking measurements of water depth
27:29 – dashed	(verb)	hit hard; thrown hard
27:29 – stern	(noun)	the back part of a boat
27:30 – bow	(noun)	the front part of a boat
27:33 – urged	(verb)	tried hard to convince someone to do something
27:33 – constant	(adjective)	is always there
27:33 – suspense	(noun)	state of anxiety that something bad is going to happen soon
27:38 – lightened	(verb)	made to be less heavy
27:40 – rudders	(noun)	small pieces of wood at the back of a boat used to steer it
27:40 – foresail	(noun)	the sail furthest at the front of a ship
28:41 – sandbar	(noun)	a strip of sand below the surface of the sea or river, found especially where the river joins the sea
27:41 – fast	(adjective)	secure; not easily moved
27:41 – pounding	(noun)	repeated and heavy hitting of something
27:41 – surf	(noun)	the mass of white foam formed by waves breaking on the shore
27:42 – prevent	(verb)	ensure something does not happen
27:44 – planks	(noun)	long, flat, rectangular pieces of wood
28:3 – brushwood	(noun)	small pieces of wood that have broken off trees and bushes
28:3 – viper	(noun)	a small poisonous snake
28:3 – fastened	(verb)	attached
28:4 – murderer	(noun)	someone who has deliberately and illegally killed another person
28:6 – expected	(verb)	believed something will happen
28:7 – estate	(noun)	large area of land owned by a person, family or organisation
28:7 – chief	(adjective)	head; leader
28:7 – official	(noun)	a person who holds a position of authority

28:7 – hospitably	(adverb)	in a way that is welcoming towards strangers
28:8 – dysentery	(noun)	an illness that causes someone to pass a lot of faeces mixed with blood and mucus
28:11 – figurehead	(noun)	a large wooden model of something that is put under the pointed head of a sailing ship

Acts 27:1 – 28:13 (New International Reader's Version)

Paul Sails for Rome

^{27:1} It was decided that we would sail for Italy. Paul and some other prisoners were handed over to a Roman commander named Julius. He belonged to the Imperial Guard. ² We boarded a ship from Adramyttium. It was about to sail for ports along the coast of Asia Minor. We headed out to sea. Aristarchus was with us. He was a Macedonian from Thessalonica.

³ The next day we landed at Sidon. There Julius was kind to Paul. He let Paul visit his friends so they could give him what he needed. ⁴ From there we headed out to sea again. We passed the calmer side of Cyprus because the winds were against us. ⁵ We sailed across the open sea off the coast of Cilicia and Pamphylia. Then we landed at Myra in Lycia. ⁶ There the commander found a ship from Alexandria sailing for Italy. He put us on board. ⁷ We moved along slowly for many days. We had trouble getting to Cnidus. The wind did not let us stay on course. So we passed the calmer side of Crete, opposite Salmone. ⁸ It was not easy to sail along the coast. Then we came to a place called Fair Havens. It was near the town of Lasea.

⁹ A lot of time had passed. Sailing had already become dangerous. By now it was after the Day of Atonement, a day of fasting. So Paul gave them a warning. ¹⁰ "Men," he said, "I can see that our trip is going to be dangerous. The ship and everything in it will be lost. Our own lives will be in danger also." ¹¹ But the commander didn't listen to what Paul said. Instead, he followed the advice of the pilot and the ship's owner. ¹² The harbor wasn't a good place for ships to stay during winter. So most of the people decided we should sail on. They hoped we would reach Phoenix. They wanted to spend the winter there. Phoenix was a harbor in Crete. It faced both southwest and northwest.

The Storm

¹³ A gentle south wind began to blow. The ship's crew thought they saw their chance to leave safely. So they pulled up the anchor and sailed along the shore of Crete. ¹⁴ Before very long, a wind blew down from the island. It had the force of a hurricane. It was called the Northeaster. ¹⁵ The ship was caught by the storm. We could not keep it sailing into the wind. So we gave up and were driven along by the wind. ¹⁶ We passed the calmer side of a small island called Cauda. We almost lost the lifeboat that was tied to the side of the ship. ¹⁷ So the men lifted the lifeboat on board. Then they tied ropes under the ship itself to hold it together. They were afraid it would get stuck on the sandbars of Syrtis. So they lowered the sea anchor and let the ship be driven along. ¹⁸ We took a very bad beating from the storm. The next day the crew began to throw the ship's contents overboard. ¹⁹ On the third day, they even threw the ship's tools and supplies overboard with their own hands. ²⁰ The sun and stars didn't appear for many days. The storm was terrible. So we gave up all hope of being saved.

²¹ The men had not eaten for a long time. Paul stood up in front of them. "Men," he said, "you should have taken my advice not to sail from Crete. Then you would have avoided this harm and loss. ²² Now I beg you to be brave. Not one of you will die. Only the ship will be destroyed. ²³ I belong to God and serve him. Last night his angel stood beside me. ²⁴ The angel said, 'Do not be afraid, Paul. You must go on trial in front of Caesar. God has shown his grace by sparing the lives of all those sailing with you.' ²⁵ Men, continue to be brave. I have faith in God. It will happen just as he told me. ²⁶ But we must run the ship onto the beach of some island."

The Ship Is Destroyed

²⁷ On the 14th night the wind was still pushing us across the Adriatic Sea. About midnight the sailors had a feeling that they were approaching land. ²⁸ They measured how deep the water was. They found that it was 120 feet deep. A short time later they measured the water again. This time it was 90 feet deep. ²⁹ They were afraid we would crash against the rocks. So they dropped four anchors from the back of the ship. They prayed that daylight would come. ³⁰ The sailors wanted to escape from the ship. So they let the lifeboat down into the sea. They pretended they were going to lower some anchors from the front of the ship. ³¹ But Paul spoke to the commander and the soldiers. "These men must stay with the ship," he said. "If they don't, you can't be saved." ³² So the soldiers cut the ropes that held the lifeboat. They let it drift away.

³³ Just before dawn Paul tried to get them all to eat. "For the last 14 days," he said, "you have wondered what would happen. You have gone without food. You haven't eaten anything. ³⁴ Now I am asking you to eat some food. You need it to live. Not one of you will lose a single hair from your head." ³⁵ After Paul said this, he took some bread and gave thanks to God. He did this where they all could see him. Then he broke it and began to eat. ³⁶ All of them were filled with hope. So they ate some food. ³⁷ There were 276 of us on board. ³⁸ They ate as much as they wanted. They needed to make the ship lighter. So they threw the rest of the grain into the sea.

³⁹ When daylight came, they saw a bay with a sandy beach. They didn't recognize the place. But they decided to run the ship onto the beach if they could. ⁴⁰ So they cut the anchors loose and left them in the sea. At the same time, they untied the ropes that held the rudders. They lifted the sail at the front of the ship to the wind. Then they headed for the beach. ⁴¹ But the ship hit a sandbar. So the front of it got stuck and wouldn't move. The back of the ship was broken to pieces by the pounding of the waves.

⁴²The soldiers planned to kill the prisoners. They wanted to keep them from swimming away and escaping. ⁴³But the commander wanted to save Paul's life. So he kept the soldiers from carrying out their plan. He ordered those who could swim to jump overboard first and swim to land. ⁴⁴The rest were supposed to get there on boards or other pieces of the ship. That is how everyone reached land safely.

On Shore at Malta

^{28:1} When we were safe on shore, we found out that the island was called Malta. ²The people of the island were unusually kind. It was raining and cold. So they built a fire and welcomed all of us. ³Paul gathered some sticks and put them on the fire. A poisonous snake was driven out by the heat. It fastened itself on Paul's hand. ⁴The people of the island saw the snake hanging from his hand. They said to one another, "This man must be a murderer. He escaped from the sea. But the female god Justice won't let him live." ⁵Paul shook the snake off into the fire. He was not harmed. ⁶The people expected him to swell up. They thought he would suddenly fall dead. They waited for a long time. But they didn't see anything unusual happen to him. So they changed their minds. They said he was a god.

⁷Publius owned property nearby. He was the chief official on the island. He welcomed us to his home. For three days he took care of us. He treated us with kindness. ⁸His father was sick in bed. The man suffered from fever and dysentery. So Paul went in to see him. Paul prayed for him. He placed his hands on him and healed him. ⁹Then the rest of the sick people on the island came. They too were healed. ¹⁰The people of the island honored us in many ways. When we were ready to sail, they gave us the supplies we needed.

Paul Arrives in Rome

¹¹ After three months we headed out to sea. We sailed in a ship from Alexandria that had stayed at the island during the winter. On the front of the ship the figures of twin gods were carved. Their names were Castor and Pollux. ¹²We landed at Syracuse and stayed there for three days. ¹³From there we sailed to Rhegium. The next day the south wind came up. The day after that, we reached Puteoli.



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