

INTRODUCTION - The setting for the story: (Acts 9:15-16, 25:10-12, 26:30 – 27:1)
In a court appearance, being a Roman citizen, Paul appeals to Caesar and is sent to Rome.

1. THAT SHIP & OUR ETERNAL SOUL NEED A SAFE HARBOR

Physically, that ship was experiencing a “May-day” situation, in need of rescue.
(v7) “the wind” (v9) “sailing now dangerous” (v15, v17) “exceedingly tempest tossed”

Spiritually, we are a sinful people in need of a safe harbor to be rescued from God’s wrath.

Our situation described: (Romans 3:10, v23; Proverbs 14:12)
God answers our “May-day” call: (Matthew 1:21; John 8:24; Proverbs 3:5)

2. “HARBORS” THAT ARE NOT SAFE

1) No safety in (v8) “a place called Fair Havens.”

The world offers many harbors for your soul: psychology, self-realization, meditation,
Universal church, ancient religions, false advertising in today’s churches, ...
Jesus said this: (Matthew 7:15, v21; 16:18) and (Ephesians 4:4-6)

2) No safety in the government: (Acts 26:32 – 27:1) lists king Agrippa, governor Festus,
Julius a centurion of the Augustan Regiment. They could not calm the storm.

(Romans 13:1-7) reveals that government has its place, is God ordained, to whom
we pay taxes; however, it has no power to rescue our soul. (Psalm 147:10-11)
(Romans 1:16) “... the gospel of Christ, it is the power of God to salvation ... “

3) No safety in skill and seamanship, their works. (v11) “the helmsman and
the owner of the ship” “centurion” (v37) “were 276 persons on the ship”

Neither the wise guys on earth nor a majority vote can formulate a plan of salvation
for our eternal souls that would be acceptable to God.

(Romans 10:2-3) “... seeking to establish a righteousness of their own ... “
Solution: (Ephesians 2:8-10; 2 Timothy 2:15; Acts 17:11; Jer. 10:23)

4) No safety in the abundance of possessions.

(v18-19) “they lightened the ship” and again in (v38).
Possessions (treasure) may take you many places, do much good; however,
(1 Timothy 6:17) “do not trust in the uncertainty of riches but in the living God”

5) No safety in giving up hope (v20) and “wished for the day” (KJV v29)

Put more trust in faith than in fate: (Acts 27:23-26) “... for I believe God
that it will be just as it was told me ... “ Yes!

CLOSE: (Acts 28:16) “Now when we came to Rome ... “

The eternal soul’s safe harbor and blessed assurance is found in God’s word:
(Psalm 121:1, Psalm 127:1; Hebrews 6:18-19; Mark 16:15-16)