

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2020

MORNING MESSAGE

“He Pilots My Ship”

Acts 27:1-11, 14-15, 18-20, 22-25, 44b

- I. THE PASSENGERS ON THE SHIP
  - A. There were several passengers on the ship
    1. First, there was Paul the apostle
    2. Second, there were “certain other prisoners”
    3. Third, there was Julius, a centurion of Augustus’ band
      - a. Matthew 8:8, “I am not worthy that thou shouldst come under my roof: but speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed”
      - b. Matthew 27:54, “Truly this was the Son of God”
    4. Fourth, there was Aristarchus, a Macedonian from Thessalonica
    5. Fifth, there was Luke, the beloved physician, and companion of Paul
    6. Finally, there was the captain and his crew
- II. THE PLAN FOR THE SHIP
  - A. The plan was to sail to Italy (v.1)
    1. The first ship was not large enough to sail the open waters of Mediterranean Sea
    2. The second ship was large enough to sail across the open sea
- III. THE PROBLEM ON THE SHIP
  - A. The problem was a storm
    1. Paul warned the centurion and the captain about the storm (v.10)
      - a. 2 Corinthians 11:25, “Thrice was I beaten with rods, once I was stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have been in the deep”
    2. Luke did a good job describing the storm
      - a. He called it “a tempestuous wind” (v.14a); “tempest” means a violent wind; the Greek word gives us the English word “typhoon”
      - b. He called it a “Euroclydon” (v.14b); it is a combination of two Greek words, “euros” meaning an east wind, and “aquilo” meaning north wind; the NIV translates it “northeaster”
      - c. He called it “no small tempest” (v.20) which is an understatement for emphasis
    3. The seasoned sailors could not control the ship
      - a. “All hope that we should be saved was then taken away” (v.20)
- IV. THE PILOT OF THE SHIP
  - A. There are several who assumed the position of pilot
    1. Julius, the centurion, was the pilot from Caesarea to Fair Haven
    2. The captain was the pilot when the typhoon hit
    3. Paul was the pilot when the sailors lost all hope
      - a. “I exhort you to be of good cheer: for there shall be no loss of any man’s life among you...For there stood by me this night the angel of God, whose I am, and whom I serve, saying, Fear not, Paul; thou must be brought before Caesar...wherefore, sirs, be of good cheer: for I believe God, that it shall be even as it was told me” (vv.22-25)
    4. There was another unseen pilot of the ship – God
      - a. It was God’s plan to get Paul to Rome
      - b. Acts 23:11, “Be of good cheer, Paul: for as thou hast testified of me in Jerusalem, so must thou bear witness also at Rome”