

Setting Your Heart

on the

Kingdom



ACTS

In the Midst of Your Storm

(The Principles of Purpose, Protection and Providence)

Acts 27:13-44

It was called “Euroclydon”...a horrific northeastern typhoon at sea. Without warning it swept down upon the ship that held the imprisoned apostle. Unleashing its violence, it drove the doomed vessel through mountainous waves toward an appointment with destiny. Prisoners and sailors alike grew weak in the face of this overwhelming tempest, for many a mariner had been sent to a watery grave in storms such as these. Jettisoning cargo and letting down sea anchors, the crew worked desperately to save the ship and themselves. With no end in sight, they began to lose hope...all except for the apostle Paul! Standing in their midst, he boldly proclaimed, *“Keep up your courage, for there shall be no loss of life among you, but only of the ship. For this very night an angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I serve stood before me, saying, ‘Do not be afraid, Paul! You must stand before Caesar. And behold, God has granted you all those who are sailing with you.’”*

God can do anything! He can even alter an impending disaster in order to fulfill His higher purposes. Paul’s purpose on earth was not over. Rome was his next assignment, typhoon or not! Accompanying his purpose was God’s protection...a divine shield preventing premature death until that purpose has been completed. Incredibly, the Lord wove His providence into the storm, controlling the uncontrollable. Though shipwrecked, Paul and the crew landed safely at Malta where God performed miracles and healings at the apostle’s hand. *From there He delivered Paul to Rome where even Caesar’s own household believed (Philip. 4:22)!*

Are you in the midst of a tempest my friend? Do you have a purpose in God to accomplish? Then be encouraged...no matter how severe life’s storms may be. God will protect you until your course is finished on earth (2 Tim. 4:17-18). *And don’t be surprised when He provisionally directs you to those who need ministry...even in the midst of your storm!* But what if you don’t know your purpose? Then attach yourself to one who does! *In God’s Kingdom, all who are with God’s anointed leaders will be safe...as long as they don’t abandon the ship (Acts 27:30-31)!*

Next: The Kingdom of God in Romans... If Satan Is Defeated, Why am I Still Attacked?

