

ASTORM IS BREWING!
ACTS 27:9-11



<u>Physical</u> <u>Personal</u>

Hurricanes

Tornadoes

Power Outages

Earthquakes

Death in the Family

Job Difficulties

Marital Woes

Parenting Problems

WE ALL FACE STORMS!

The Question is Not If Or When Storms Will Come In Your Life, But How Do You Respond To Them!





- ► The Apostle Paul found himself in a life -threatening storm
- When the crew panicked,

Paul stood up and shared the anchors that kept his life secure.

Verse 29 says, "Fearing that they would be dashed against the rocks, they dropped four anchors from the stern and prayed for' daylight."



OBSERVATIONS



#1 His Relationship With God

Question: What kept Job from turning against God when he lost his family, his possessions and his health?

Question: What kept Joseph from turning against God when he faced slavery and prison for acts he did not commit?

Question: How did David survive for 20 years on the run for his life after God promised him he would be Israel's king?

THREE SPIRITUAL ANCHORS PAUL THREW OUT TO THEM!



"....for I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that day." 2 Timothy 1:12 NKJV

- We must come to know God personally
- Knowing the Bible, or going to church regularly, doesn't make your relationship with God personal
- The I.R.S. may know a lot of things about you (S.S.Number, salary, number of dependents, address, phone number) but they don't know **YOU!**
- Your dog may not know "your numbers," but knows you by the relationship you have with them (they can pick you out)

Can God Pick You Out? Matthew 7:21-23

2TIMOTHY 1:12

"Now when much time had been spent, and sailing was now dangerous because the Fast was already over, Paul advised them saying, "Men, I perceive that this voyage will end with disaster and much loss, not only of the cargo and ship but also our lives."

Nevertheless the centurion was more persuaded by the helmsman and the owner of the ship than by the things spoken by Paul."



God often tells us to wait a little while because the weather outside is not right for the journey! (Remember Jesus' birth)

#2 PAUL'S EXPERIENCES WITH GOD HAD ALREADY HELPED HIM! ACTS 27:9-11

- Paul had more discernment (insight) than the others and tried to steer them in another strategy (He'd already been shipwrecked 3 times), having been there and done that. Getting through previous storms helped him with the next one
- Have some Christians, because of their spiritual insight and experience, tried to steer other children of God in a better direction?
- Understand that human prudence is outweighed by divine revelation (spiritual perspectives are more important) Being a Christian at your job makes a difference! Paul had experiences as a Christian sailor that were different!
- Why do we ignore good spiritual advice?
 - Sometimes it means starting over
- Sometimes it means squelching our excitement
- Sometimes it's our perception of our advisers (jealousy, envy, less accomplished)
- Sometimes it means looking at the facts that we refuse to see (admitting wrong)

OBSERVATIONS

#3 The Word Of God

- ▶ While others were panicking, Paul was resting on God's word.
- Verse 22, "And now I urge you to take heart, for there will be no life lost among you, but only of the ship. For there stood by me this night an angel of God to whom I belong and whom I serve, saying, "Do not be afraid, Paul; you must be brought before Caesar; and indeed God has granted you all those who sail with you.' Therefore take heart, men, for I believe God just as it was told to me."
- God was reminding him of His promise to him in jail, Acts 23:11



- Worship God in Spirit and in Truth (John4:24)
 Zeal without obedience is either ignorance or arrogance!
 Romans 10:1-4
- Stay away from the doctrine and commandments of men Matthew 15:7-8
- ▶ Be able to substantiate your worship Biblically, 2 John 9
- Remember, the problem with Cain's worship in the Old Testament was that he didn't worship God according to obedience to His word (Like Nadab and Abihu, Leviticus 10:1-3 offering unauthorized worship to God)

ANCHOR YOUR LIFE ON WHAT GOD'S WORD SAYS!



"By <u>faith</u> Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, through which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts; and through it he being dead still speaks."

How is Faith obtained?

Romans 10:17, "So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."

HEBREWS 11:4

Paul's Anchors Should Help Us Through Our Storms!

#1 Your Relationship With God #2 Your Experiences With God #3 Knowing the Word Of God



Hear the Gospel Acts 15:7

Believe the Gospel Acts 15:7

Repent Of Sins Acts 17:30

Confess Christ Acts 8:37

Be Baptized Acts 8:38

IF YOU REALIZE A STORM MAY BE BREWING, BE PREPARED!