

LESSON 13

HE'S GOT THE WHOLE WORLD IN HIS HANDS

ACTS 27:1—28:31



1 Take a moment to look around. What evidence do you see of God's protection and provision?



Read Acts 27:1—28:31, the chart “Paul’s Journey to Rome,” the map “The Trip toward Rome,” and the following notes:

☐ 27:9 ☐ 27:21 ☐ 28:3 ☐ 28:17–20 ☐ 28:30

2 Who was on the ship with Paul?

3 What was Paul’s counsel to the ship’s officers (27:9, 10)?

4 How did Paul react to the terrible storm? What advice did he give the others (27:13–26)?

5 What happened on Malta (28:1–10)?

6 What happened to Paul once he was in Rome (28:14–31)?

7 In this section of Scripture, how did God protect Paul and provide for his needs?



Paul, as a Roman citizen, appealed to Caesar for justice. He was sent to Rome on a ship with other prisoners. After a few days of rough sailing, Paul advised the ship's officers not to sail any farther. But they sailed on—into a terrible storm. Soon the ship ran aground and broke apart. Miraculously, there were no casualties from the shipwreck—they all made it safely to Malta. There Paul was bitten by a poisonous snake, but he was unharmed. Eventually, they set sail again and reached Rome. In Rome, Paul was permitted to live wherever he wanted, although he was guarded by a Roman soldier. During that time believers from all over the city came to Paul, and he was able to teach them. Paul's journey to Rome provides a wonderful picture of God's protection. Paul's work was not finished, so God protected him from hostile Jews, the soldiers, the sea, and the snake. In Rome, God provided Paul an all-expense-paid forum for his teaching and preaching. Do you believe that God is also watching over you?

8 Describe a situation or incident in which God protected someone you know from danger or serious injury.

9 It has been said that nothing can harm one of God's children unless God allows it. What does that truth mean to you?



10 From what has God protected you recently?

11 How does God provide for your daily needs?

12 Why do we tend to take God's provision and protection for granted?

13 List some of the provisions God has given you—food, health, friends, family, safety, freedom, talents, opportunities, etc.



14 Thank God for these gifts each day this week.

15 In what other ways could you express your gratitude to God?

A Describe the relationship between Paul and Julius, his guard (27:1, 11, 29–36, 42–44). Why do you think Julius wanted to save Paul's life (27:42, 43)? Whom have you brought closer to Christ because of your lifestyle?

B How did God use the misfortunes in Paul's life to bring about good? In what ways might he be working in and through your misfortunes?

C Why didn't the Jewish leaders in Rome know more about Christians (28:17–22)? What image of Christians do people in your community have? How can you help improve their image of Christianity?

D How did Paul use his Roman imprisonment to spread the gospel (28:23–31)? How can you use your situation in life to witness for Christ?

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