

Welcome to the Worship Celebration of



SIMPLY BIBLICAL | FAMILY INTEGRATED

Church – The Beginnings, Part 73

Paul's Miraculous Gospel Journey to Rome

Acts 26:24-28:31

03/25/2018



Last Week we looked at Paul & The Gospel on Trial – Part 2

Paul presented his testimony and the Gospel for the last time, as recorded in the Book of Acts to Festus, King Agrippa, Bernice, Military Commanders, and various local town Big Wigs, etc. (Acts 26:1-23)

**Now we will read through the rest of Acts 26 and all of 27 thru Acts 28:10
We will see Paul's amazing miraculous Gospel Journey to Rome ...**

Luke, Aristarchus and there may have been others of Paul's team are also on that journey with Paul, every part of his journey.

Also, Pay Attention to how many places that they stop off at (harbor at) in which there are Brethren (Christians) already there. The Gospel of Christ has made great advances by this time (i.e. 30 Years after Pentecost [Acts 2]).

Pay Attention to God's Protection, God's Encouragement to Paul and God's Sovereignty Overall in this Journey.

Acts

²³ “that the Christ would suffer, that He would be the first to rise from the dead, and would proclaim light to the Jewish people and to the Gentiles.”

Chapter 26

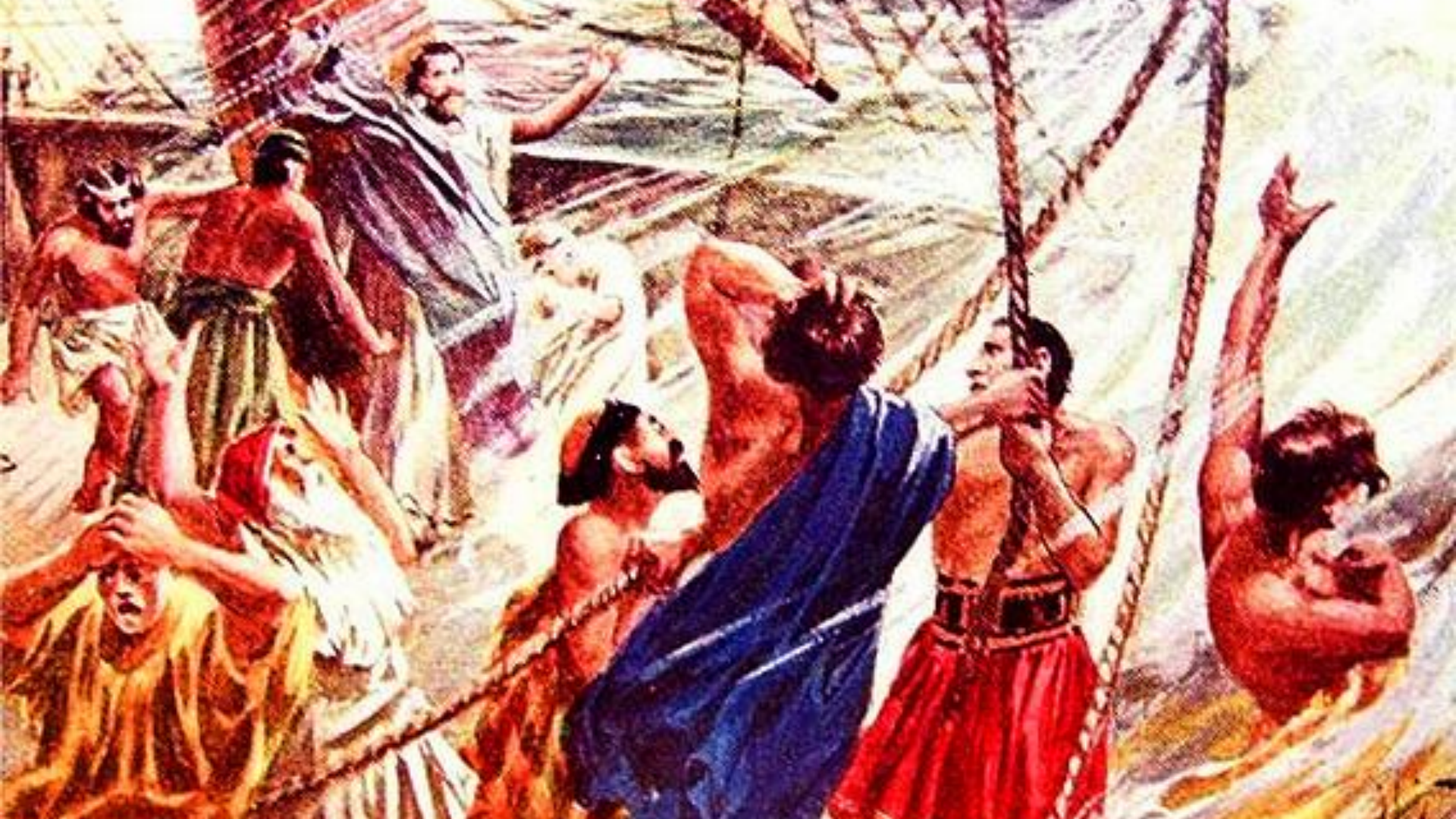
Agrippa Parries Paul's Challenge

²⁴ Now as he thus made his defense, Festus said with a loud voice, “Paul, you are beside yourself! Much learning is driving you mad!”

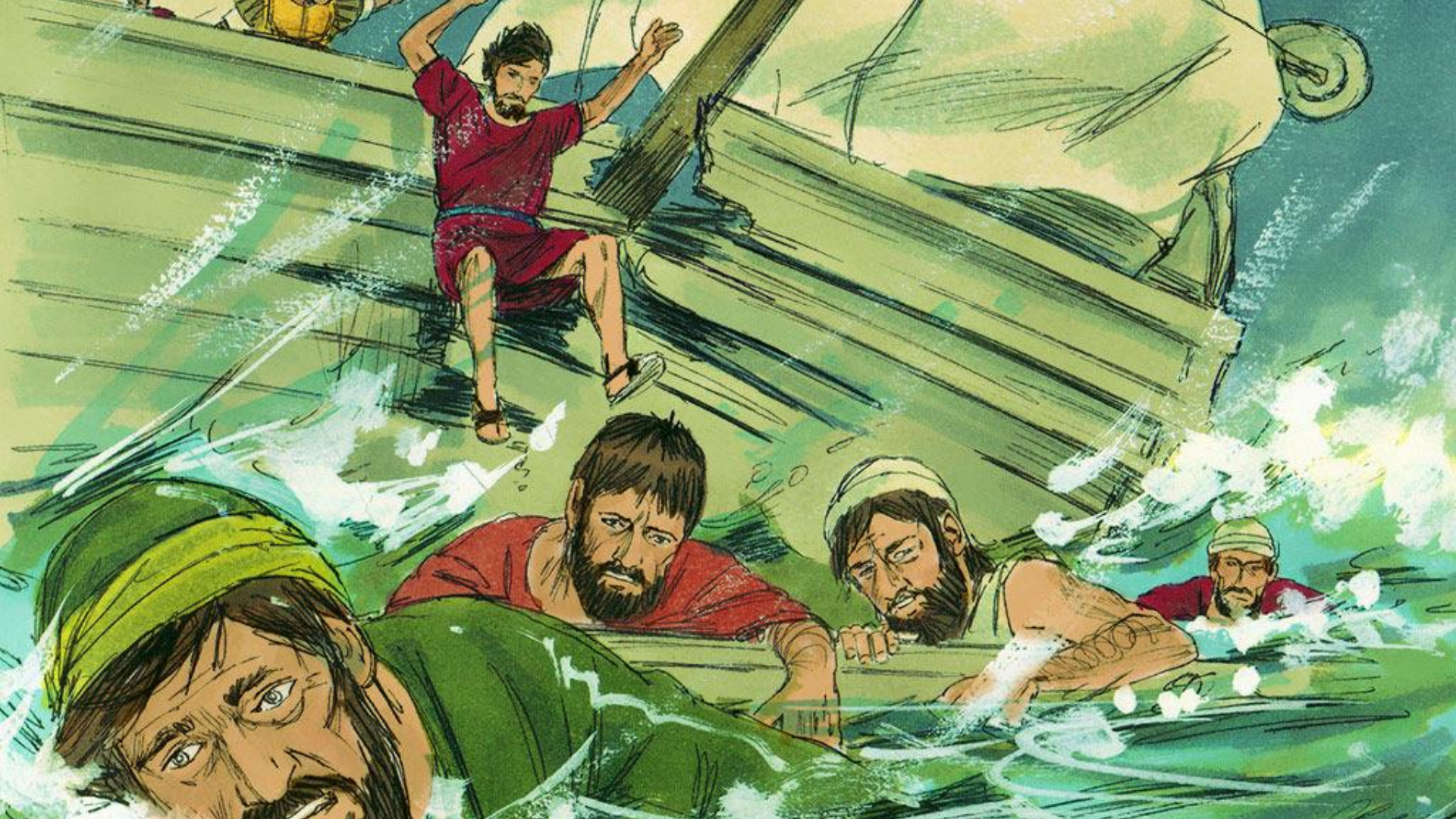
²⁵ But he said, “I am not mad, most noble Festus, but speak the words of truth and reason.

















TVBA

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IN · INSVLAM QVANDAM





Paul's Miraculous Gospel Journey to Rome

1. **The Paul's** Journey was smooth sailing at **first** – and then –
The STORM CAME ...

Why does God allow Storms in the lives of sinners?

The 276 Folks on Board, most of whom were lost sinners ...

When there is always smooth sailing in life – the Old Sinful Flesh is in full **PRIDE** and **DECEPTION** Mode – causing the sinner to think of himself/herself as OK – “I’m a Good Person”

The Heart is HARD as STONE – he/she sees no reason to Trust in God or that he or she needs to be saved from sin or from the Judgment of God to come.

God's sends storms to **Break Up the Fallow / Hard Ground (soil) of the Heart** so that God's Gets the Sinners Attention and so that the sinner is brought to a place of **Humility**. That is the **ONLY** Place in which the sinner will come to Christ at the foot of the Blood Stained Cross and receive God's Forgiveness of Sin. → **God Opposed the PROUD, but He give GRACE to the Humble**

Paul's Miraculous Gospel Journey to Rome

1. **The Paul's** Journey was smooth sailing at **first** – and then –
The STORM CAME ...

When God gets the sinner's attention – he or she is more able to Hear the Voice of Jesus Christ when the Gospel is Presented.
When a person is in a situation with the Rug Pulled Out From Under them.

Lesson → Don't be an ENABLER of the Sinner to Stay in his or her Sinful Rebellion. Pray for God to Send Storms into the Lives of Sinners. And then Ride it along with them – Journey with them and Pray that God uses You to Speak into their situation → **with the Aim of bringing them to Christ.**

Pray to God opens up Miraculous Opportunities for the Gospel in the Midst of the Storm of folks around us –
those sinners that are going through **LIFE's Storms.**

Acts

⁹ So when this was done, the rest of those on the island who had diseases also came and were healed.

¹⁰ They also honored us in many ways; and when we departed, they provided such things as were necessary.

Chapter 28

Arrival at Rome

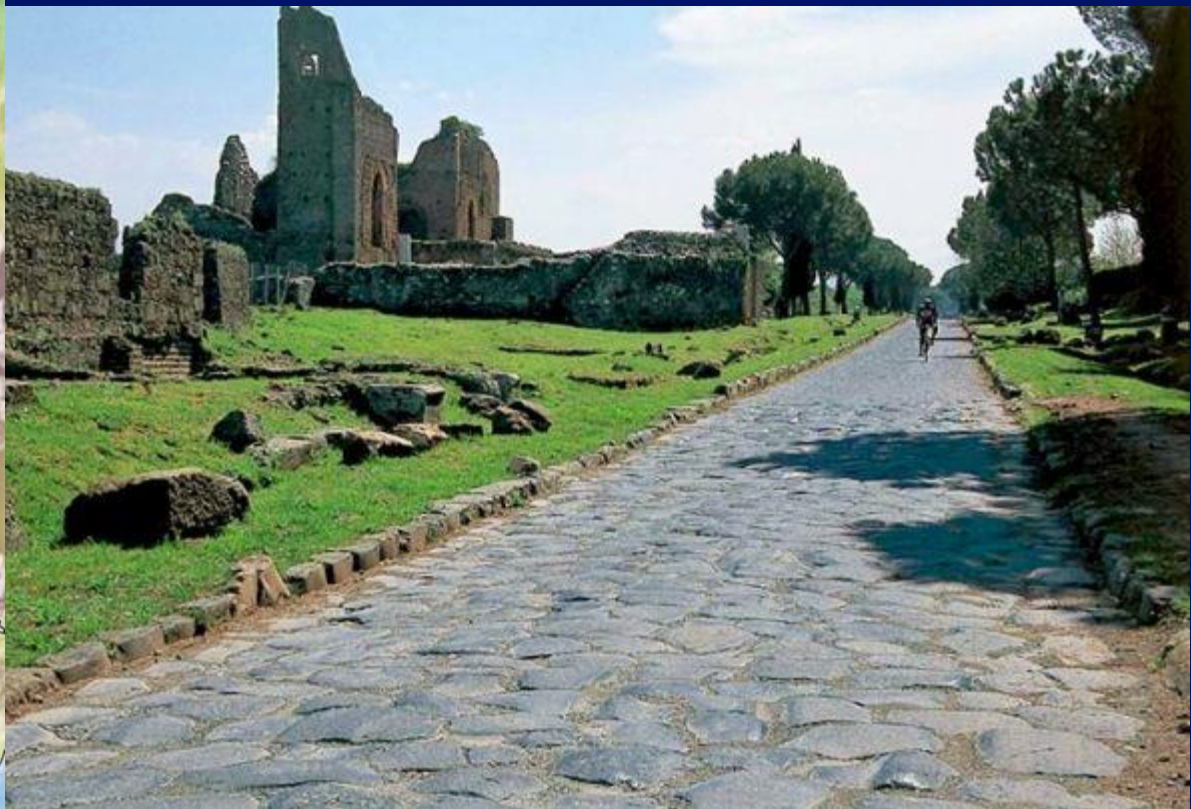
¹¹ After three months we sailed in an Alexandrian ship whose figurehead was the Twin Brothers, which had wintered at the island.

¹² And landing at Syracuse, we stayed three days.















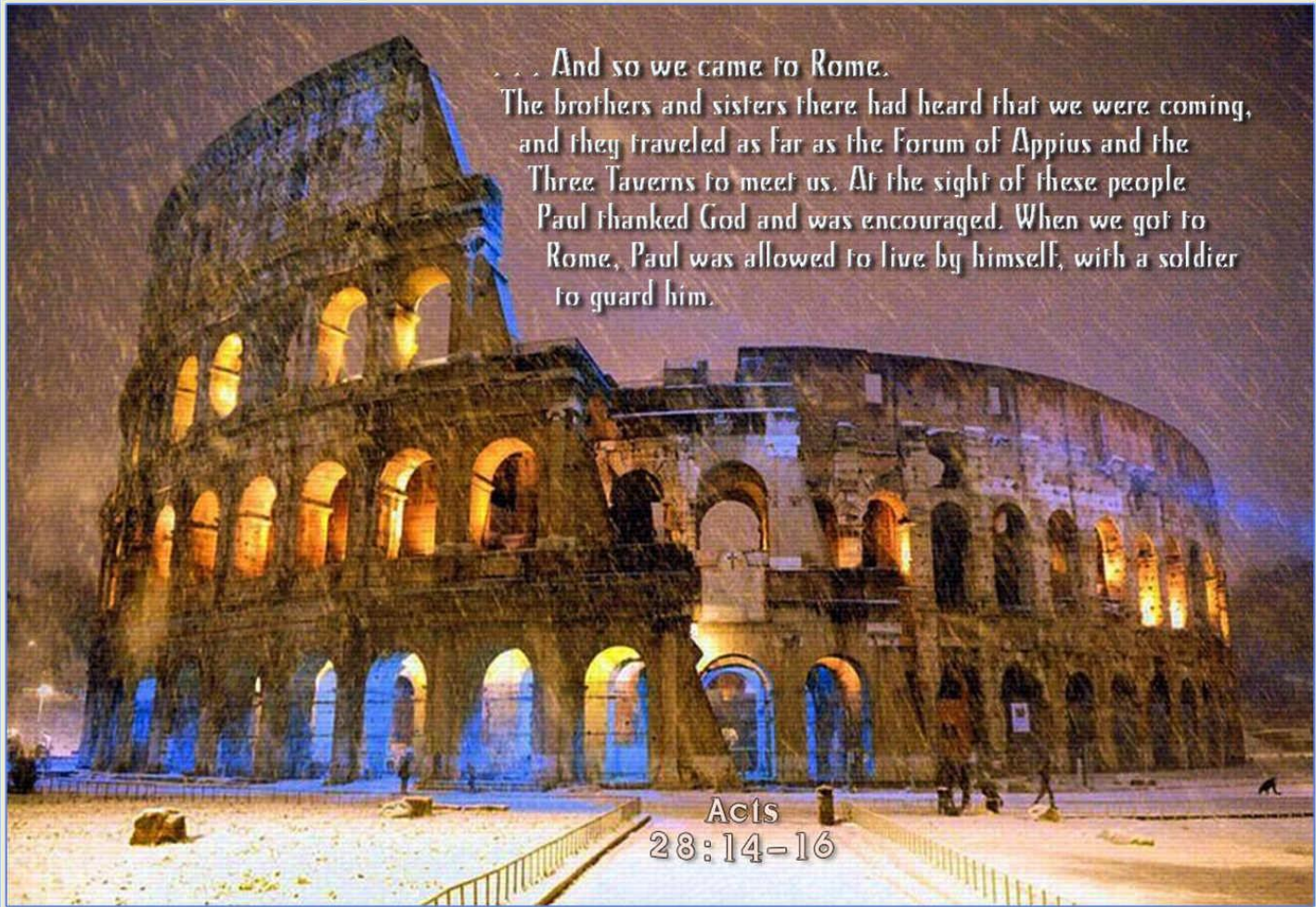
Paul's Miraculous Gospel Journey to Rome

2. The Paul's Journey from Malta to Rome – The Brethren ... (30 years later)

The **Gospel had spread all over the known Roman Empire** ... including in Italy as well ... all the way up the Appian Way from Puteoli (**Pozzuoli**, Italy, behind Naples, Italy) the beginning point for Paul's Journey to Rome – **170** miles.

The Churches planted in that area of the world (Italy) were **NOT** planted by Paul the Apostle. But, God directly Planted them through Christians in Rome – that were ex-patriots of other countries captured by Rome (e.g. **England**, etc.) The story behind the scenes is just as miraculous as the planting of the church in **Antioch** (see **Acts 11**, etc.)

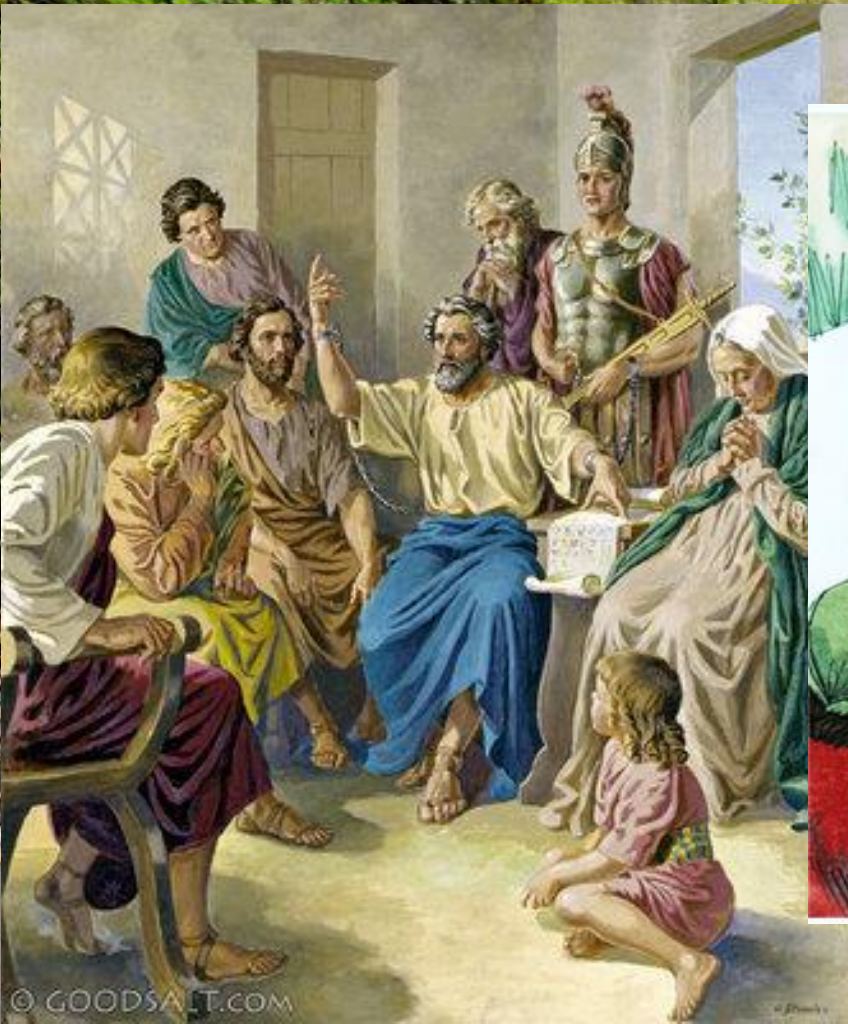
3. **All Geographical and Historical notations in the Book of Acts are Verifiable, historically, geographically, and via archaeology, etc. The Bible is Accurate.** When some says the Bible is NOT accurate – ask them for some evidence that the Bible is inaccurate – (ref. **Prov. 26:4-5**)



And so we came to Rome.
The brothers and sisters there had heard that we were coming,
and they traveled as far as the Forum of Appius and the
Three Taverns to meet us. At the sight of these people
Paul thanked God and was encouraged. When we got to
Rome, Paul was allowed to live by himself, with a soldier
to guard him.

Acts
28:14-16





Paul's Miraculous Gospel Journey to Rome

4. **The Paul's New Home (for 2 years) – The Roman Gospel Cottage**
He was able to have a great amount of freedom – but he was kind of under “house arrest” in a sense – and had a “Guard Over Him” ... which did not necessarily mean that he was bound with chains. Just that a Guard was there in the house with him. He Invited People in ... whoever he wanted.

Remember the “Church in Rome” already exists and Paul had already written to them to receive him, etc. (see Romans chapter 15 & 16)

Acts 28:16 - Now when we came to Rome, the centurion delivered the prisoners to the captain of the guard; but Paul was permitted to dwell by himself with the soldier who guarded him.

Acts 28:30-31 - Then Paul dwelt two whole years in his own rented house, and received all who came to him, ³¹ preaching the kingdom of God and teaching the things which concern the Lord Jesus Christ with all confidence, no one forbidding him.

Paul's Miraculous Gospel Journey to Rome

4. The Paul's New Home (for 2 years) – The Roman Gospel Cottage

The Gospel – to the Jews First, and then to the Gentiles (Romans 1:16-17)

The Jews in Jerusalem met with Paul – and did not have a clue about why Paul was there and anything about his charges against him by the Jews in Jerusalem ...



Acts 28:21-29 - Then they said to him, “We neither received letters from Judea concerning you, nor have any of the brethren who came reported or spoken any evil of you. ²² But we desire to hear from you what you think; for concerning this sect, we know that it is spoken against everywhere.” So when they had appointed him a day, many came to him at his lodging, to whom he explained and solemnly testified of the kingdom of God, persuading them concerning Jesus from both the Law of Moses and the Prophets, from morning till evening. ²⁴ And some were persuaded by the things which were spoken, and some disbelieved. ²⁵ So when they did not agree among themselves, they departed after Paul had said one word: “The Holy Spirit spoke rightly through Isaiah the prophet to our fathers, ²⁶ saying, ‘Go to this people and say: “Hearing you will hear, and shall not understand; And seeing you will see, and not perceive; ²⁷ For the hearts of this people have grown dull. Their ears are hard of hearing, and their eyes they have closed, Lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears, Lest they should understand with their hearts and turn, So that I should heal them.””

²⁸ “Therefore let it be known to you that the salvation of God has been sent to the Gentiles, and they will hear it!” ²⁹ And when he had said these words, the Jews departed and had a great dispute among themselves.

Paul's Miraculous Gospel Journey to Rome

4. The Paul's New Home (for 2 years) – The Roman Gospel Cottage He was able to have a great amount of freedom –

Acts 28:30-31 - Then Paul dwelt two whole years in his own rented house, and received all who came to him, ³¹ preaching the kingdom of God and teaching the things which concern the Lord Jesus Christ with all confidence, no one forbidding him.

Acts starts out with Jesus Christ and the Gospel of Christ and closes out OPEN ENDED with Jesus Christ and the Gospel of Christ – it seems to not really End like a book would end... and that is the Point ... The Continuing Story of the Mission, the Great Commission of the Church does not End until Christ comes back for His Church after the Church has reached all the Peoples, Nations, Tongue and Tribes with the Gospel of Christ.

“Acts 29” is our story – the Story of the Church reaching to the ends of the earth with the Gospel of Christ – Acts 1:8; Matt. 24:14; 28:18-20

What is your part in it?