



**GREATER GRACE  
CHURCH**

## **MIDWEEK FILLUP | THE STUDY OF ACTS**

### **ACTS 28**

#### **OBJECTIVES IN STUDYING THIS CHAPTER**

1. To review the events on the island of Malta following the shipwreck
2. To observe Paul's arrival at Rome
3. To consider Paul's work in Rome while under house arrest

#### **SUMMARY**

It was rainy and cold, as the shipwrecked travelers escaped onto the island of Malta. The natives showed kindness by kindling a fire and welcoming them. As Paul gathered sticks and laid them on the fire, a viper bit his hand. The natives reacted, "No doubt this man is a murderer, whom, though he has escaped the sea, yet justice does not allow to live." Paul shook off the viper and suffered no harm. After a time, the natives thought Paul was a "god" as no harm had come to him. Publius, a leading citizen of the region, received and entertained the travelers "courteously" for three days. Publius' father was sick with a fever and dysentery. Paul went in to him and prayed. He laid hands on Publius' father and healed him. Others on the island with diseases came and were healed. The islanders honored them in many ways and provided the necessities for them as they departed the island. (1-10)

After three months, an Alexandrian ship (the Twin Brothers) sailed from Malta - it had wintered there. They sailed to Syracuse, Rhegium, and then to Puteoli. Paul found brethren at Puteoli and stayed with them seven days. As they traveled along, brethren heard about them and met them at Appii Forum and Three Inns. This gave Paul courage and he thanked God. Upon arrival at Rome, the centurion delivered the prisoners to the captain of the guard. Paul was permitted to "dwell by himself with the soldier who guarded him." (11-16)

After three days, Paul called for the Jewish leaders. When they came together, he spoke to them. Paul noted that he had done nothing against their people or the customs of their fathers. He reviewed that he had been taken prisoner in Jerusalem, and was taken into Roman custody. He had been examined and was to be released, but the Jews spoke against his release; thus he appealed to Caesar. That was the reason he had called for and had spoken with the Jewish leaders. Paul stated, "...because for the hope of Israel I am bound with this chain." The Jewish leaders responded to Paul. They indicated they had not received letters nor heard of any evil spoken of Paul. They wanted to hear more from Paul "concerning this sect." They stated that it had been "spoken against everywhere." The Jews met Paul again at his place of lodging at another arranged time. He explained and testified of

the kingdom of God, and persuaded them concerning Jesus. Paul spoke from both the Law of Moses and the Prophets. He spoke from morning until evening. Some were persuaded and some disbelieved. Paul completed the discourse by quoting from Isaiah the prophet. The quotation indicated they would hear/see but not understand/ perceive. The Lord wanted them to understand and turn so He could heal them. Paul told them that the salvation of God had been sent to the Gentiles, and "they will hear it!" The Jews departed and "had a great dispute among themselves." Paul was allowed to rent his own home for two years, as he continued under house arrest. Paul received all who came to him. He preached the kingdom of God, and taught the things concerning the Lord Jesus Christ. He taught with all confidence, and no one forbade him. (17-31)

## **OUTLINE**

### **1. ON THE ISLAND OF MALTA FOLLOWING THE SHIPWRECK (1-10)**

#### **a. THE NATIVES SHOWED KINDNESS TO THE SHIPWRECKED TRAVELERS (1-6)**

- i. It was rainy and cold, as the travelers escaped to the island
- ii. The natives showed kindness by kindling a fire and welcoming them
- iii. A viper bit Paul, as he gathered sticks and laid them on the fire
  1. The natives reacted, "No doubt this man is a murderer, whom, though he has escaped the sea, yet justice does not allow to live."
  2. Paul shook off the viper and suffered no harm
  3. After a time, the natives thought Paul was a "god" as no harm had come to him

#### **b. THE HEALING OF PUBLIUS' FATHER AND OTHERS (7-10)**

- i. Publius was a leading citizen of the region
  1. He received and entertained the travelers for three days
- ii. Publius' father was sick with a fever and dysentery
  1. Paul went in to him and prayed
  2. Paul laid hands on him and healed him
- iii. Others on the island with diseases came and were healed
- iv. The islanders honored them in many ways and provided the necessities for them as they departed the island

### **2. PAUL'S ARRIVAL AT ROME (11-16)**

#### **a. THEY SAILED TOWARD ROME (11-13)**

- i. After three months, an Alexandrian ship (Twin Brothers) sailed from Malta - it had wintered there
- ii. They sailed to Syracuse, Rhegium, and then to Puteoli

#### **b. THEY TRAVELED BY LAND TOWARD ROME (14-15)**

- i. Paul found brethren at Puteoli and stayed with them seven days

- ii. As they traveled along, brethren heard about them and met them
  - 1. They met at Appii Forum and Three Inns
  - 2. This gave Paul courage and he thanked God

**c. THEY ARRIVED AT ROME (16)**

- i. The centurion delivered the prisoners to the captain of the guard at Rome
- ii. Paul was permitted to "dwell by himself with the soldier who guarded him"

**3. PAUL'S WORK IN ROME WHILE UNDER HOUSE ARREST (17-31)**

**a. AFTER THREE DAYS, PAUL CALLED FOR THE JEWISH LEADERS (17-22)**

- i. When they came together, Paul spoke to the Jewish leaders
  - 1. He noted that he had done nothing against their people or the customs of their fathers
  - 2. He reviewed that he had been taken prisoner in Jerusalem and taken into Roman custody
  - 3. He had been examined and was to be released, but the Jews spoke against his release; thus he appealed to Caesar
  - 4. That was the reason he called for and spoke with them
  - 5. He stated, "...because for the hope of Israel I am bound with this chain"
- ii. The Jewish leaders responded to Paul
  - 1. They indicated they had not received letters nor heard of any evil spoken of Paul
  - 2. They wanted to hear more from Paul "concerning this sect"
  - 3. They noted that it had been "spoken against everywhere"

**b. PAUL SPOKE TO THE JEWISH LEADERS AGAIN (23-29)**

- i. The Jews met Paul again at his place of lodging
- ii. He explained and testified of the kingdom of God and persuaded them concerning Jesus
  - 1. He spoke from both the Law of Moses and the Prophets
  - 2. He spoke from morning until evening
  - 3. Some were persuaded and some disbelieved
- iii. Paul completed the discourse by quoting from Isaiah
  - 1. The quotation indicated they would hear/see but not understand/perceive
  - 2. The Lord wanted them to understand and turn so He could heal them
  - 3. Paul told them that the salvation of God had been sent to the Gentiles, and "they will hear it"
  - 4. The Jews departed and "had a great dispute among themselves"

**c. PAUL CONTINUED FOR TWO YEARS UNDER HOUSE ARREST (30-31)**

- i. Paul was allowed to rent his own home for two years
- ii. Paul received all who came to him
  - 1. He preached the kingdom of God
  - 2. He taught the things concerning the Lord Jesus Christ
- iii. He taught with all confidence, and no one forbade him