

Acts 27:1-44
Storms of Life

Introduction:

September of 1989 hurricane “Hugo” slammed into Charleston, South Carolina killing 20 people and causing three billion dollars worth of damage. One woman who was interviewed on national television was reported as saying. “Many in Charleston had no time for the Lord, and that hurricane was God’s message calling people to turn to Him.” Such storms do give pause, for serious reflections on the issues of life and death. There are more than storms of nature that take place in our lives. There are the storms of depression, loss of a job, loss of a marriage and the greatest loss is the loss of one’s soul. Matthew 7:24-27

I. Knowing God Is With You

A. The narrative:

1. We again see Luke with Paul on this voyage to Rome. (“we” 11 times)
2. Christian friends of Paul provided for his needs – v.3
3. Paul’s warning against sailing on late in the year –v.10
4. Paul who saw disaster exercised prudence and responsibility – Phil. 2:12,13

B. The Storm at Sea

1. A time of fasting ended – v.9
2. Fourteen days long – v.27,33

C. A Call to Faith – v.24

1. An angelic message from God v.23
2. The presence of Christ – 28:20; 18:20
3. Paul knew he belonged to God – I Cor. 6:20; 7:23

D. Three ways we belong to God:

1. We belong to God as a bride belongs to the bridegroom – Eph. 5:25
2. We belong to God as a child belongs to his or her father – I John 3:1
3. We belong to God as a sheep belongs to the Shepherd – John 10:10,11

E. In the Lord’s Service – v.23b,24

II. Trusting God In All Circumstances

A. Without Faith it’s impossible to please God – Heb. 11:6

B. Encouragement of Others

1. Jonah’s lack of encouragement
2. Paul practical Christianity – v.33-36

C. The presence of Christians: (Biblical examples)

1. God sparing Sodom for the sake of ten righteous – Gen. 18:32
2. God blessed Potiphar’s house for Joseph’s sake – Gen. 39:5

D. What about America? (The presence of Christians)

Conclusion:

1. *We must face the storms of life knowing that God is with us – Psalm 46:7,11; 67:1*
2. *We must face the storms of life trusting God in all circumstances Ps. 25:2; 43:3*