



**Acts of the Apostles Book Bible Study Chapters 27-28**  
**Sunday August 25, 2024**

**ACTS CHAPTER TWENTY-SEVEN (59-60 AD)**

**Paul's Voyage to Rome (59-60 AD)**



In Acts 27:9 Luke mentions “the Fast was already over”, referring to The Day of Atonement, which took place late September/early October. Subsequent mentions of “winter” (27:12,13) give us additional indications of the months of travel. Based on these we can reconstruct the probable months of travel.

**Late August to Early September A.D. 59: Departure from Caesarea.**

The apostle Paul's journey to Rome, as recorded in Acts 27 and 28, was a lengthy and challenging voyage that took about 6 months. The entire journey from Caesarea to Rome is generally estimated to have taken about six months including time spent traveling, delays due to adverse weather, the shipwreck, and time spent on the island of Malta. The journey most likely took place between late A.D. 59 and early A.D. 60.

Paul had been in prison in Caesarea for two years (Acts 24:27). Paul departed from Caesarea in the custody of the centurion Julius, a Roman centurion of the Augustan



Regiment, around late summer or early autumn of A.D. 59. The Augustan Regiment was an auxiliary Roman military unit tasked with guarding and transporting prisoners, among other duties. The title "Augustan" was a designation that was given to certain military units to signify their special loyalty to the emperor (term associated with the Emperor Augustus, who was the first Roman Emperor).

Luke and Aristarchus were with Paul on this journey (Acts 27:2).

They sailed from Caesarea to Sidon (Acts 27:3), then sailed around Cyprus to Myra in Lycia (Acts 27:5-6). At Myra, they transferred to a ship bound for Italy. This phase of the journey likely took a few weeks.

### **September to November A.D. 59: Encounter with the storm and shipwreck in Malta.**

After leaving Myra, the ship encountered contrary winds, forcing them to sail slowly along the coast of Crete (Acts 27:7-8). This slow progress suggests that several weeks were spent trying to make headway.

Paul warned of the dangers of continuing the voyage, but his warning was not heeded (Acts 27:9-12). The decision was made to winter at Phoenix, a harbor on Crete, but they were caught in a violent storm (the "Northeaster") and driven out to sea (Acts 27:13-15). The storm lasted for 14 days (Acts 27:27), leading to a shipwreck on the island of Malta.

### **December to February A.D. 59-60: Paul and companions spend winter in Malta.**

After the shipwreck, Paul and the other survivors spent three months on Malta (Acts 28:11). This period would have covered the winter months of A.D. 59-60, likely from December to February.

### **March to Early April A.D. 60: Arrival in Rome.**

After wintering in Malta, they resumed their journey to Rome in an Alexandrian ship (Acts 28:11). They stopped at Syracuse (Sicily), then sailed to Rhegium (southern Italy), and finally to Puteoli (near Naples) (Acts 28:12-13). From there, Paul traveled by land to Rome, arriving likely in March to early April (spring) of A.D. 60.

### **Paul's Conduct During A Tumultuous Voyage**



One of the things that stand out in Acts 27 is how the apostle Paul conducted himself during the tumultuous voyage. We observe a man who although a prisoner, talked and walked like a ruler over the situations and circumstances. We see his faith in God. We see God at work. We see the expressions of the Spirit through him during this time. We observe Paul being a source of strength and encouragement to people around him, the sailors and the soldiers. Let's highlight these:

**“Men, I Perceive that this voyage will end with disaster...” (Acts 27:10)**

The apostle Paul was a seasoned traveler. As he mentioned to the Corinthians: *"Three times I was beaten with rods; once I was stoned; three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I have been in the deep; in journeys often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils of my own countrymen, in perils of the Gentiles, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren;"* (2 Corinthians 11:25-26). His experience combined with what the Spirit of the Lord would have alerted him to and the wisdom that the Spirit gave, Paul informed the centurion *"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."* (Acts 27:10-11). The captain and the owner of the ship thought differently. Paul warned the team but allowed them to proceed with what they thought best.

**God to Whom I Belong and Whom I Serve (Acts 27:21-26)**

**Acts 27:20-26**

**20** Now when neither sun nor stars appeared for many days, and no small tempest beat on us, **all hope that we would be saved was finally given up.**

**21** But after long abstinence from food, then Paul stood in the midst of them and said, "Men, you should have listened to me, and not have sailed from Crete and incurred this disaster and loss.

**22** And now I urge you to take heart, for **there will be no loss of life among you, but only of the ship.**

**23** For there stood by me this night an angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I serve,

**24** saying, 'Do not be afraid, Paul; you must be brought before Caesar; and indeed God has granted you all those who sail with you.'

**25** Therefore take heart, men, for I believe God that it will be just as it was told me.

**26** However, we must run aground on a certain island."



In the middle of a difficult situation when “...all hope that we would be saved was finally given up.” (27:20), the apostle Paul encouraged them based on what the Lord had spoken to him. Paul spoke prophetically of what would happen. No life would be lost only the ship would be wrecked (run aground) on a certain island. Isn't this amazing, that in a time like this Paul could be prophetic and be a man of faith bringing encouragement to the 276 people on the ship.

We also see that the sailors responsible for guiding the ship, were planning to abandon the ship and escape. Once again Paul gave a clear prophetic word:

#### **Acts 27:30-31**

**30 And as the sailors were seeking to escape from the ship, when they had let down the skiff into the sea, under pretense of putting out anchors from the prow,  
31 Paul said to the centurion and the soldiers, "Unless these men stay in the ship, you cannot be saved."**

#### **Shipwrecked on Malta (Acts 27:27-44)**

On their journey during September to November (A.D. 59) they encountered the storm, spent several weeks adrift at sea, and eventually they were shipwrecked on the island of Malta.

#### **When Everybody is Down You Cheer Them Up (Acts 27:35-36)**

#### **Acts 27:35-36**

**35 And when he had said these things, he took bread and gave thanks to God in the presence of them all; and when he had broken it he began to eat.  
36 Then they were all encouraged, and also took food themselves.**

For the second time, after 14 days adrift at sea and just before they were shipwrecked at Malta, Paul stood boldly in the presence of the people on the ship, gave thanks to God and ate food and encouraged all the travelers to do so. A man of faith and courage who brought good cheer when everyone was else were fearful and discouraged.

#### **ACTS CHAPTER TWENTY-EIGHT (60-62 AD)**

#### **Miracles in Malta (Acts 28:1-10)**

Arriving on the island of Malta, as a prisoner, we see God working miracles through Paul.



## Acts of the Apostles – Book Study – Chapters 27-28 Sermon Notes, Sermon Outline and Small Group Study Guide

Paul remained unharmed when a viper bit him. A real testimony to what the Lord Jesus had spoken: *"And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover."* (Mark 16:17-18).

Publius, the magistrate of the island, who received and took care of the shipwrecked travelers, saw his father healed of a fever and dysentery. Soon, many on the island who had diseases came and were healed.

### **December to February A.D. 59-60: Paul and companions spend winter in Malta.**

Paul and the travelers spent 3 months, December to February in Malta.

Let's reflect on Paul's conduct through this journey and apply this to our own selves as believers.

How do you conduct yourself in the middle of a storm?

Can you be calm in the middle of a storm?

Can you bring the mind of God in the middle of a storm?

Can you display the goodness and glory of God in the middle of a storm?

Can you bring good cheer when everybody seems down?

Can you believe God for miracles when everything has fallen apart?

### **Arrival At Rome (Acts 28:11-15)**

After wintering in Malta, they resumed their journey to Rome in an Alexandrian ship (Acts 28:11). They stopped at Syracuse (Sicily), then sailed to Rhegium (southern Italy), and finally to Puteoli (near Naples). Paul stayed 7 days with believers here. (Acts 28:12-13).

From there, Paul traveled by land to Rome, arriving likely in March to early April (spring) of A.D. 60.

### **March to Early April A.D. 60: Arrival in Rome.**

Paul was welcomed by the brethren at Rome. Paul had longed to meet the brethren at Rome. And so, having arrived at Rome, he "thanked God and took courage" when he was able to meet the believers at Rome (Acts 28:15).



### **Acts 28:15-16**

**15 And from there, when the brethren heard about us, they came to meet us as far as Appii Forum and Three Inns. When Paul saw them, he thanked God and took courage.**

**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.**

### **First Roman Imprisonment 60-62 AD (Acts 28:16)**

Paul was held under house arrest in Rome. According to Acts 28:16, he was allowed to live by himself with a soldier to guard him. This implies that he was not in a formal prison but rather in a rented house (Acts 28:30), where he was relatively free to receive visitors, preach, and write letters.

### **Paul's Ministry in Rome 60-62 AD (Acts 28:17-31)**

Initially Paul reached out to the Jewish leaders at Rome. He explained why he had appealed to Caesar. The Jewish leaders at Rome informed Paul: "*We neither received letters from Judea concerning you, nor have any of the brethren who came reported or spoken any evil of you. But we desire to hear from you what you think; for concerning this sect, we know that it is spoken against everywhere.*" (Acts 28:21-22). Paul explained to the Jewish leaders and other Jews at Rome, about the kingdom of God and Jesus. Some of them were convinced and some did not believe.

### **Acts 28:30-31**

**30 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.**

### **Financial Aid From Philippi**

During Paul's first imprisonment in Rome, the Philippians sent aid through Epaphroditus (Philippians 4:18).

### **Writing The Prison Epistles: Philippians, Colossians, Ephesians, Philemon (60-62 AD)**

**Ephesians, Colossians and Philemon** were likely written about the same time. Ephesians may have been written first. The letter to the Colossians deals with specific issues within the Colossian church, particularly concerning false teachings. It was likely written in



## Acts of the Apostles – Book Study – Chapters 27-28 Sermon Notes, Sermon Outline and Small Group Study Guide

response to information Paul received from Epaphras, who is mentioned in Colossians 1:7-8. Philemon was a personal letter sent alongside the letter to the Colossians. It concerns Onesimus, a runaway slave who had come to Paul and whom Paul was sending back to his master, Philemon, in Colossae. The connection with Onesimus, who also appears in Colossians, suggests these letters were written together.

These three letters were likely carried by **Tychicus and Onesimus**. Tychicus is specifically mentioned in both Ephesians 6:21-22 and Colossians 4:7-8 as the bearer of these letters. Onesimus, who is mentioned in Philemon and Colossians 4:9, was a runaway slave returning to his master, Philemon, in Colossae. It's likely that he accompanied Tychicus on this journey.

Ephesus was located on the western coast of Asia Minor (modern-day Turkey). Colossae was situated inland to the east of Ephesus. Colossae was a smaller city in the region of Phrygia, near the Lycus River. It was part of a tri-city area that included Laodicea and Hierapolis. The distance between Ephesus and Colossae during New Testament times was approximately 100 to 120 miles (**160 to 193 kilometers**) by land.

**Philippians** would have been a little later during this time of house arrest. The tone of Philippians where Paul indicates that he was ready to live or to die (Philippians 1:19-21). He expected to be released but was prepared to die if needed. Hence it seems that Philippians was written later in his imprisonment. **Epaphroditus** had been sent by the Philippian church to assist Paul during his imprisonment (Philippians 2:25). After recovering from a serious illness, Epaphroditus returned to Philippi with the letter from Paul.

Glimpse of what Paul was experiencing at Rome can be seen in these epistles:

In Ephesians Paul writes about spiritual warfare and the armor of God. A picture based on the armor worn by Roman soldiers whom he saw daily.

In Colossians Paul described Christ's triumph at the Cross, as a grand imperial victory procession, where a triumphant ruler, led his vanquished foes in a humiliating parade. Something drawn from the Roman empire around him.

We see some significant notes in Philippians where Paul states that the palace guards and many others have heard and received the Gospel, and even those in Caesar's (Emperor Nero's) household.

### **Philippians 1:12-14**





**12 But I want you to know, brethren, that the things which happened to me have actually turned out for the furtherance of the gospel,**  
**13 so that it has become evident to the whole palace guard, and to all the rest, that my chains are in Christ;**  
**14 and most of the brethren in the Lord, having become confident by my chains, are much more bold to speak the word without fear.**

#### **Philippians 4:22**

**All the saints greet you, but especially those who are of Caesar's household.**

Nero was emperor of Rome at this time. A more cruel and worthless man never ruled the empire; yet among his own household there were a number of true Christians including possibly family members, guards, and servants. Who they were is not known. Josephus says that the empress Poppaea was a worshiper of the true God (Antiquities, 20:8:11).

And so true to his character, Paul's epistle to the Philippians is an epistle of joy. Not only does he rejoice in his tribulations, he also calls upon the believers to rejoice!

#### **Philippians 4:4**

**Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice!**

#### **Paul May Have Written Hebrews (60-68 AD)**

#### **Hebrews 13:23-24**

**23 Know that our brother Timothy has been set free, with whom I shall see you if he comes shortly.**

**24 Greet all those who rule over you, and all the saints. Those from Italy greet you.**

The authorship of the book of Hebrews remains a mystery. If the apostle Paul were to have written Hebrews, it most likely would have happened at this time. Hebrews 13:23 mentions Timothy, a close companion of Paul, which could suggest a connection to Paul although not a definitive proof of Pauline authorship. Hebrews discusses the Jewish sacrificial system in the present tense, suggesting that the Temple was still standing and sacrifices were still being offered. This makes it likely that Hebrews was written before A.D. 70, when the Temple was destroyed by the Romans.

#### **Visitors During His First Roman Imprisonment**

People who visited and assisted Paul during his first Roman imprisonment Acts 28:





## Acts of the Apostles – Book Study – Chapters 27-28 Sermon Notes, Sermon Outline and Small Group Study Guide

**Luke**, the author of Acts, accompanied Paul on his journey to Rome and was with him during his imprisonment. This is evident from the "we" passages in Acts (Acts 27-28).

**Aristarchus**, a Macedonian from Thessalonica, was with Paul during his voyage to Rome and his imprisonment (Acts 27:2; Colossians 4:10).

**Tychicus**, who is mentioned in several of Paul's letters, likely visited and assisted Paul during his imprisonment (Colossians 4:7-8; Ephesians 6:21).

**Epaphras** is mentioned as being with Paul in Rome (Colossians 1:7, 4:12; Philemon 1:23).

**Epaphroditus** who was sent by the believers at Philippi was with Paul (Philippians 2:25-30; 4:18).

**Onesimus**, the runaway slave who became a believer, was also with Paul (Philemon 1:10-12).

**Timothy** close relationship with Paul suggests he visited and assisted him during this time. Paul mentions Timothy in 3 out of the 4 Prison epistles (Philippians 1:1; Colossians 1:1; Philemon 1:1).

### WHAT HAPPENED AFTER ACTS TWENTY-EIGHT?

After the events recorded in Acts 28, where Paul was under house arrest in Rome, there are several historical and traditional sources that provide insight into what happened to him afterward. Although the Bible does not provide a detailed account of Paul's life after this period, early Christian writings and church tradition help us piece together a possible timeline of his later years.

#### Paul's Release from First Roman Imprisonment (62 AD)

Acts 28:30-31 indicates that Paul remained under house arrest in Rome for two years, during which time he was able to preach the gospel freely. It is widely believed that Paul was released from this first Roman imprisonment around A.D. 62. The reasons for his release are not detailed in the biblical text, but it is possible that the charges against him were dropped, or he was acquitted during his trial due to the lack of substantial evidence against him. The Roman legal system required a formal trial before a verdict, and it is likely that his accusers failed to present a strong case. Some traditions suggest that his release may have been influenced by the relatively lenient policies of Nero's early reign, as the persecution of Christians had not yet intensified.

#### Paul's Post-Release Travels (63-65 AD)



Acts of the Apostles – Book Study – Chapters 27-28  
Sermon Notes, Sermon Outline and Small Group Study Guide



After his release, Paul likely embarked on further missionary journeys. We take into account places mentioned in 1 & 2 Timothy and Titus and early Christian sources and traditions suggest that Paul traveled to the following regions:

**Crete:** According to the Epistle to Titus, Paul left Titus in Crete to continue the work they had started (Titus 1:5). This suggests that Paul may have visited Crete after his release.

**Nicopolis:** In Titus 3:12, Paul mentions his intention to spend the winter in Nicopolis, a city on the western coast of Greece.

**Macedonia:** Paul mentions plans to go to Macedonia in 1 Timothy 1:3. This would include the cities of Neapolis, Philippi, Berea, and Thessalonica.

**Corinth:** In 2 Timothy 4:20 Paul states that Erastus stayed in Corinth.

**Miletus:** In 2 Timothy 4:20 Paul mentions that he had left Trophimus sick at Miletus (a port city near Ephesus).

**Ephesus:** 1 Timothy 1:3 also indicates that Paul may have spent time in Ephesus and left Timothy there to oversee the church, or Paul could have sent Timothy to Ephesus without necessarily going to Ephesus personally. Unsure.

**Troas:** In 2 Timothy 4:13 Paul mentions leaving his cloak and books in Troas with a man named Carpus.



**Spain:** Although Paul expressed his desire to visit Spain in Romans 15:24,28 there is no definitive biblical record of him making it to Spain, though some early Christian sources suggest that he did travel there. This remains a mystery.

### **Writing of 1 Timothy and Titus (63-65 AD)**

1 Timothy and Titus: These letters are believed to have been written after Paul's release from his first Roman imprisonment, during his travels between A.D. 63 and A.D. 65.

1 Timothy was written to Timothy, who was overseeing the church in Ephesus, this letter provides guidance on church leadership, doctrine, and pastoral care. Paul writes 1 Timothy possibly from Macedonia.

Titus was written to Titus, who was on the island of Crete, this letter also deals with church organization and the qualifications of leaders. Paul writes Titus from Macedonia or Ephesus.

### **The Reign of Emperor Nero (54-68 AD)**

Emperor Nero, who ruled the Roman Empire from A.D. 54 to 68, is one of history's most infamous figures. While his initial years (the first five years) seemed relatively quiet, his reign is often associated with tyranny, extravagance, and the persecution of Christians, although some historians also note his contributions to the cultural and architectural development of Rome.

### **Peter at Rome**

The apostle Peter eventually traveled to Rome, where he is believed to have led the Christian community. The earliest reliable traditions place Peter in Rome during the latter part of his life. We do not know exactly when Peter arrived in Rome, possibly during the reign of Emperor Nero.

### **The Great Fire of Rome and Persecution of Christians (64 AD)**

The Great Fire of Rome, which occurred in July of A.D. 64, is one of the most infamous events in Roman history. The fire caused massive destruction in the city and had significant political and social repercussions, including the persecution of Christians. The fire began on the night of July 18, A.D. 64, and it raged for approximately six days, with a brief lull before it reignited and burned for another three days. The fire devastated much of Rome, destroying or severely damaging about 10 of the city's 14 districts. The exact cause of the fire remains unclear. Although Nero was away from Rome when the fire started, rumors spread that Nero had started the fire to clear land for his new



palace, the Domus Aurea. To deflect suspicion from himself, Nero blamed the fire on the Christians, a relatively new and unpopular religious group in Rome. This marked one of the earliest and most brutal persecutions of Christians. Tacitus, a Roman historian writing several decades later, recorded that many Christians were arrested and subjected to horrific punishments. Some were covered in animal skins and torn apart by dogs, while others were crucified or burned alive as human torches to light Nero's gardens at night.

#### **Peter Writes 1 Peter (62-64 AD)**

1 Peter is traditionally believed to have been written around A.D. 62-64. The letter was likely written from Rome, as Peter refers to his location as "Babylon" (1 Peter 5:13), a symbolic name often used to refer to Rome in early Christian writings. 1 Peter was addressed to the "elect exiles" in the provinces of Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia (1 Peter 1:1). These were regions in Asia Minor (modern-day Turkey) where Christians were facing persecution and trials. The letter was intended to encourage the believers to remain steadfast in their faith despite suffering and persecution, emphasizing the hope of eternal life through Jesus Christ.

#### **Death of Simon the Zealot - A Martyr (65 AD)**

Various traditions suggest Simon the Zealot (Luke 6:15, also called the Canaanite Matthew 10:1-2), one of the Twelve apostles was martyred, possibly by being sawed in half in Persia or crucified.

#### **Paul's Second Roman Imprisonment (66-67 AD)**

After his release from his first imprisonment, Paul continued his missionary work, likely spreading the gospel in regions like Spain, Crete, and Asia Minor. His activities would have kept him in the Roman authorities' sights, especially given the growing tension between the Roman state and the Christian community.

According to early Christian tradition, Paul was arrested again and brought back to Rome. His second imprisonment is believed to have been much harsher than his first, with Paul possibly held in the Mamertine Prison, a grim and cold underground cell. This second imprisonment likely took place around A.D. 66-67, during the reign of Emperor Nero, who was known for his persecution of Christians. The Roman Emperor Nero began a severe persecution of Christians following the Great Fire of Rome in A.D. 64. Nero allegedly blamed Christians for the fire, using them as scapegoats to deflect suspicion from himself. This led to widespread arrests and executions of Christians in Rome. As a prominent leader of the Christian movement, Paul would have been a prime target for arrest under Nero's crackdown.



## Acts of the Apostles – Book Study – Chapters 27-28 Sermon Notes, Sermon Outline and Small Group Study Guide

may have been arrested while he was in one of the cities he visited after his release, possibly in Asia Minor (Turkey) or Greece. We could speculate he may have been captured in Troas (in Turkey), because he seems to have left his belongings there.

Paul's imprisonment in the Mamertine prison built in the 7<sup>th</sup> Century BC, for political enemies of Rome. This building still stand in Rome.



The Mamertine Prison in Rome, with an altar commemorating the imprisonment of Saints Peter and Paul there

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mamertine\\_Prison#/media/File:Mamertine\\_Prison.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mamertine_Prison#/media/File:Mamertine_Prison.jpg)

### Visitors During Paul's Second Imprisonment (66-67 AD)

The New Testament, particularly the Pastoral Epistles, provides some information about those who were connected to Paul during his second imprisonment. However, historical details are sparse.

**Luke:** In 2 Timothy 4:11, Paul writes, "Only Luke is with me." Luke, the physician and author of the Gospel of Luke and the Acts of the Apostles, was a close companion of Paul. He was likely the only one who remained with Paul during his final days, providing both medical and spiritual support.

**Onesiphorus:** Paul speaks highly of Onesiphorus in 2 Timothy 1:16-18, noting that he "often refreshed me and was not ashamed of my chains." Onesiphorus sought Paul out in Rome and provided him with support, despite the risks involved in associating with a prisoner under Nero's regime. This suggests that Onesiphorus was a devoted friend who courageously ministered to Paul during his imprisonment.





**Tychicus:** Tychicus carried the first set of epistles (Ephesians, Colossians, Philemon) to deliver it to believers in Ephesus and Colossae. In 2 Timothy 4:12, Paul mentions sending Tychicus to Ephesus, indicating that Tychicus was a trusted associate involved in Paul's ministry work, possibly carrying messages or performing other important tasks for the church while Paul was imprisoned.

**Timothy:** In 2 Timothy 4:9, Paul urges Timothy to come to him quickly: "Do your best to come to me soon." This suggests that Timothy was either not in Rome at the time or was in transit. Although we don't have confirmation that Timothy made it to Rome before Paul's death, this request shows Paul's deep desire for his presence.

**Mark (John Mark):** Paul also asks Timothy to "get Mark and bring him with you, because he is helpful to me in my ministry" (2 Timothy 4:11). This reflects Paul's reconciliation with John Mark (who had earlier parted ways with Paul) and suggests that Paul valued his assistance during this difficult period. We do not know for sure if John Mark was able to reach Paul before his execution.

Paul's second imprisonment was marked by a sense of abandonment and loneliness. In 2 Timothy 4:16, he mentions that at his first defense, "*no one came to my support, but everyone deserted me.*" This indicates that many of his former companions were either unable or unwilling to stand by him, possibly due to fear of persecution under Nero.

### **Writing of 2 Timothy (66-67 AD)**

This letter is generally regarded as Paul's final epistle, written during his second Roman imprisonment, around A.D. 66-67. It has a more personal tone, reflecting Paul's sense of impending death. In 2 Timothy 4:6-8, Paul speaks of his life as being poured out like a drink offering, indicating that he knows his death is near.

### **2 Timothy 4:1-8**

**1 I charge you therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom:**

**2 Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching.**

**3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers;**

**4 and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.**

**5 But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.**



**6 For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure is at hand.**

**7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.**

**8 Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.**

#### **Simon Peter Writes 2 Peter (65-68 AD)**

2 Peter was likely written between A.D. 64-68, shortly before Peter's death. This epistle was also likely written from Rome. The specific audience of 2 Peter is not mentioned, but it was likely written to the same or similar communities as 1 Peter. 2 Peter focuses on warning against false teachers and heresies that were beginning to emerge in the early Christian communities. Peter emphasizes the importance of remembering the teachings of the apostles and remaining faithful to the truth.

#### **Paul's Death - Beheaded in Rome As A Martyr (68 AD)**

According to church tradition, Paul was martyred in Rome around A.D. 68 under Emperor Nero. Being a Roman citizen, Paul was likely beheaded rather than crucified. This event is not recorded in the New Testament but is affirmed by early Christian writers such as Eusebius and Tertullian.

Paul was beheaded under Nero outside Rome's Ostian Gate at a place called "Three Fountains." The original name of the gate was Porta Ostiensis, as it was located at the beginning of via Ostiense, the road that connected Rome and Ostia. Via Ostiense was an important arterial road, as evidenced by the fact that upon entering the gate of the same name, the road split, with one direction leading to Ostia and the other leading to the famous Emporium, the great market of Rome.

According to some traditions, he was beheaded on the same day Peter was crucified upside-down. Paul was a Roman citizen and could not be legally crucified.

#### **Death of Simon Peter - Crucified upside down As A Martyr (68 AD)**

Crucified upside down in Rome under Emperor Nero.

#### **Jewish Revolts and the Destruction of the Second Temple (66-70 AD)**

First Jewish Revolt (66-70 AD): This major uprising against Roman rule led to the destruction of the Second Temple in 70 AD, profoundly affecting Jewish religious and social life.





### **The Writing of the Gospels and Acts (65-85 AD)**

Gospel of Mark: 65-70 AD

Gospel of Matthew: 70-80 AD

Gospel of Luke: 70-85 AD

Acts of the Apostles: 70-85 AD

### **The Writings of John and Jude (85-96 AD)**

1 John: 85-95 AD

2 John: 85-95 AD

3 John: 85-95 AD

Jude: 60-80 AD

Gospel of John: 90-100 AD

Revelation: 95-96 AD

### **ONWARD, CHRISTIAN SOLDIERS**

*The words were written by Sabine Baring-Gould in 1865, and the music was composed by Arthur Sullivan in 1871. Based on 2 Timothy 2:3 (KJV): "Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ."*

Onward, Christian soldiers,  
marching as to war,  
With the cross of Jesus  
going on before!  
Christ, the royal Master,  
leads against the foe;  
Forward into battle,  
see his banner go!

Refrain:

Onward, Christian soldiers,  
marching as to war,  
With the cross of Jesus  
going on before!

At the sign of triumph  
Satan's host doth flee;  
On, then, Christian soldiers,  
on to victory!  
Hell's foundations quiver  
at the shout of praise;



Acts of the Apostles – Book Study – Chapters 27-28  
Sermon Notes, Sermon Outline and Small Group Study Guide

Brothers, lift your voices,  
loud your anthems raise!  
[Refrain]

Like a mighty army  
moves the church of God;  
Brothers, we are treading  
where the saints have trod;  
We are not divided;  
all one body we,  
One in hope and doctrine,  
one in charity.  
[Refrain]

Onward, then, ye people,  
join our happy throng,  
Blend with ours your voices  
in the triumph song;  
Glory, laud, and honor,  
unto Christ the King;  
This thro' countless ages  
men and angels sing.  
[Refrain]

**SUMMARY**

**GOSPEL AND SALVATION CALL**

**SUPERNATURAL MINISTRY TIME**

**Minister as the Spirit leads**



Acts of the Apostles – Book Study – Chapters 27-28  
Sermon Notes, Sermon Outline and Small Group Study Guide



**Acts Book Study Chapters 27-28**  
**Sunday August 25, 2024**

This is a simple guide for use in Life Group discussions. Our objective is to focus on the application of the Sunday sermon - how each one is becoming a doer of the Word and building their life on God's Holy Word. The Life Group meeting would normally last for 2 hours. Each Life Group would have up to 12-15 people.

**Preparation**

To prepare for the Life Group meeting, you can listen to the Sermon Key Points (sermon summary in five minutes) or the full-length Sunday sermon. You can also review the Sunday Sermon notes. All these are available in the "All Peoples Church Bangalore" mobile App or online at our [sermons page](#). Pray for the Life Group meeting and invite the work and ministry of the Holy Spirit.

**Welcome**

The Life Group meeting may commence with a time of prayer, worship, and a fun activity.

**LISTEN to God's Word**

Read the following Scripture references: *Please request Life group members to read Acts 27-28, before the Life Group Meeting. This can help save time.*

**INVESTIGATE God's Word Together**

Please discuss a few of these together, giving time for people to share their insights. We encourage each one individually to make notes of their personal learning during the Group discussion.

1, --

If time permits, each one can take a few (3 minutes max) to share one or two key learning and how they see themselves applying it into their specific life situations. Encourage each one to participate and share.

**FELLOWSHIP by sharing your life and spiritual journey**



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Each one takes a few (3 minutes max) to share anything from their walk with God, something God has been teaching them, a testimony of answered prayer or a specific challenge that they would like prayer for. Encourage each one to participate and share.

**ENCOURAGE each other by praying and ministering to one another**

Get into small groups of two or three and take turns to thank God and pray for each other in the light of what was learnt today. Listen to the Holy Spirit. Expect the gifts of the Holy Spirit to flow bringing healing, releasing miracles, prophecy, etc.

Regroup and pray together for:

*1, families to be protected and strengthened*

*2, a mighty outpouring of God's Holy Spirit on us as a church and through us to bless many others in our city and nation. Nothing but a mighty work of God's Spirit can change our city and nation.*

*3, for the BUILD TO IMPACT project - for all details to go well as we plan and build our Bible college and church facilities to serve the Lord and people.*

Close by thanking God together.



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### USEFUL RESOURCES

Watch our online Sunday Church service live stream every Sunday at 10:30am (Indian Time, GMT+5:30). Spirit filled, anointed worship, Word and ministry for healing, miracles, and deliverance.

**YOUTUBE:** <https://youtube.com/allpeopleschurchbangalore>

**WEBSITE:** <https://apcwo.org/live>

Our other websites and free resources:

**CHURCH:** <https://apcwo.org>

**FREE SERMONS:** <https://apcwo.org/resources/sermons>

**FREE BOOKS:** <https://apcwo.org/books/english>

**DAILY DEVOTIONALS:** <https://apcwo.org/resources/daily-devotional>

**JESUS CHRIST:** <https://examiningjesus.com>

**BIBLE COLLEGE:** <https://apcbiblecollege.org>

**E-LEARNING:** <https://apcbiblecollege.org/elearn>

**WEEKEND SCHOOLS:** <https://apcwo.org/ministries/weekend-schools>

**COUNSELING:** <https://chrysalislife.org>

**MUSIC:** <https://apcmusic.org>

**MINISTERS FELLOWSHIP:** <https://pamfi.org>

**CHURCH APP:** <https://apcwo.org/app>

**CHURCHES:** <https://apcwo.org/ministries/churches>

**WORLD MISSIONS:** <https://apcworldmissions.org>

### SERMON OUTLINE

The book of Acts records the first 40 years of the Early Church. This is a book study of the Acts of the apostles, or more correctly, the acts of the Holy Spirit through the early believers. As we study the book of Acts there are two compelling perspectives that we develop: (A) the Church's DNA – what a Spirit filled church would look like and (B) how the Church would go about fulfilling the Great Commission empowered by the Holy Spirit. We glean spiritual and practical insights from each chapter and share ways we can apply these in our lives. In this sermon we cover Acts chapters 27-28. We look at Paul's strength of character and conduct as he traveled to Rome. We consider the miracles in Malta. Paul's ministry during his first Roman imprisonment including writing the prison epistles. Paul's travels after his release. Paul's second imprisonment and finally the martyrdom of Paul and Peter.

### KEYWORDS

Acts of the apostles, book study of Acts, Gospel preaching, Spirit filled church community, sermons, sermon notes, sermon outline, free sermon notes, free sermon outlines, Bible study resources



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### REFERENCES/CITATIONS

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