



Be Of Good Cheer For I Believe God

"Wherefore, sirs, be of good cheer: for I believe God, that it shall be even as it was told me" (Acts 27:25).

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"But after long abstinence Paul stood forth in the midst of them, and said, Sirs, ye should have hearkened unto me, and not have loosed from Crete, and to have gained this harm and loss. 22 And now I exhort you to be of good cheer: for there shall be no loss of any man's life among you, but of the ship. 23 For there stood by me this night the angel of God, whose I am, and whom I serve, 24 Saying, Fear not, Paul; thou must be brought before Caesar: and, lo, God hath given thee all them that sail with thee. 25 Wherefore, sirs, be of good cheer: for I believe God, that it shall be even as it was told me" (Acts 27:21-25).

Introduction

Storms are inevitable in life - moments of uncertainty, fear, trials and perilous seasons will come. Yet within the storm, the Word of God offers a sure anchor. In Acts 27, the Apostle Paul finds himself in the midst of a violent tempest at sea. Though the storm rages, Paul stands in faith as a beacon of divine assurance and encourages those around him. His words remind us that we, too, can trust in God's promises during turbulent times. This passage teaches us how to have faith, courage, and hope in the face of life's tempests - Standing firm in faith during life's storms.

I. The Consequences of Ignoring God's Counsel

"Sirs, ye should have hearkened unto me, and not have loosed from Crete, and to have gained this harm and loss." — Acts 27:21

Paul reminds the crew that their current peril came because they ignored his warning (cf. Acts 27:10). **Hardship often follows when we disregard divine wisdom.** This is not mere self-justification, but a spiritual principle: **disregard-**

"For there stood by me this night the angel of God, whose I am, and whom I serve" (Acts 27:23).

ing divine counsel leads to unnecessary suffering.

- **Proverbs 1:24–26** *"Because I have called, and ye refused; I have stretched out my hand, and no man regarded; 25 But ye have set at nought all my counsel, and would none of my reproof: 26 I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your fear cometh."*
- **Isaiah 30:1** *"Woe to the rebellious children, saith the Lord, that take counsel, but not of me; and that cover with a covering, but not of my spirit, that they may add sin to sin"*

God's warnings are not meant to restrict us but to protect us. Like Paul's words to the sailors, divine instruction, if heeded, can spare us from harm.

II. Encouragement Amid the Storm

"And now I exhort you to be of good cheer: for there shall be no loss of any man's life among you, but of the ship." — Acts 27:22

Even when others disobey, God's mercy may still intervene. Paul, though ignored, becomes the source of hope for everyone aboard. He encourages the men with God's promise of survival. He urges them: **"Be of good cheer"—not because the storm has ceased, but because God has spoken.** Likewise, God provides assurance in our own trials. Though the storm may rage, His word remains true (Isaiah 41:10)

- **Psalms 46:1–3** *"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. 2 Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be*

carried into the midst of the sea; 3 Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof. Selah.”

- **John 16:33** “In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.”

Notice that God does not always calm the storm immediately—but He does preserve His people in the midst of it.

III. Faith in God’s Word Brings Peace

“For there stood by me this night the angel of God, whose I am, and whom I serve, Saying, Fear not, Paul; thou must be brought before Caesar: and, lo, God hath given thee all them that sail with thee. Wherefore, sirs, be of good cheer: for I believe God, that it shall be even as it was told me.” — Acts 27:23-25

Paul demonstrates unwavering faith in God's plan. Even in the storm, he knows his purpose is secure. The angelic message reaffirmed Paul's destiny (“Thou must be brought before Caesar”) and God's providence (“God hath given thee all them that sail with thee”). **Paul knew that no storm could cancel what God had decreed.** When we trust in God, we can hold onto His promises and move forward with confidence (Proverbs 3:5-6). Here lies the heart of Paul's confidence: **“I believe God.” Not merely in God, but God Himself**—His word, His promise, His purpose.

- **Romans 4:20–21** (Abraham's faith) “He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; 21 And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform.”
- **Hebrews 10:23** “Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised.)”
- **Numbers 23:19** “God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?”

Faith is not blind optimism—it is confidence grounded in the character and promise of God.

IV. Encouraging Others: Sharing Hope in Crisis

“Wherefore, sirs, be of good cheer: for I believe God, that it shall be even as it was told me.” (Acts 27:25, KJV)

Paul not only believes in God's word but actively encourages others to have faith as well. As Christians, we are called to strengthen those around us, especially in times of trouble.

- **1 Thessalonians 5:11** – “Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do.”
- **Galatians 6:2** – “Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.”

Conclusion

Like Paul, we may find ourselves in storms not of our making—caused by the decisions of others, or simply the trials of a fallen world. Yet even there, **God speaks, God preserves, and God delivers.** Storms in life will come, but we are not alone. Like Paul, we can stand firm in the promises of God, knowing He is in control. When we trust Him, hold onto His word, and encourage others, we transform hardship into a testimony of faith. Let us:

- **Listen to God's counsel** (even if unpopular),
- **Encourage others with the hope of God's mercy,** and
- **Believe His word,** knowing He is faithful to perform all He has promised.

Let the declaration of Paul be ours as well:

“Be of good cheer: for I believe God, that it shall be even as it was told me.”

Closing Question: Are you trusting God in your storm today?