



Are we CERTAIN that God keeps his promises? Acts 27-28

1. God made a promise to Paul in Acts 23:11

- a. You will testify about me _____ Rome, as you have testified about me in Jerusalem.
 - i. Share testimony
 - ii. Explain that Jesus is the Messiah/Savior
 - iii. Offer forgiveness of sin through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ
 - iv. Disciple new believers into mature believers who can and will now lead
- b. Key factor – which cannot be missed: Paul must travel _____ Rome.

2. Things that God has clearly done (before Chapter 27) to make sure this promise is kept:

- a. _____ placed Paul's nephew in a place to overhear the plot to ambush Paul, and provide a Roman Commander who would send Paul to Caesarea for protection. (Ch 23)
- b. _____ caused Felix to be intrigued by Paul and his message, as well as be motivated by personal gain – so that Paul was held under guard for two years - being protected from the Jews who were actively trying to kill him. (ch24)
- c. _____ caused Festus to hear Paul's case and grant him his appeal to Caesar, thus providing a Roman escort for Paul all the way to Rome. (Ch 25-26)

3. Things that God does in Acts 27-28 to make sure this promise is kept:

- a. **God** arranged for at least Luke and Aristarchus to accompany Paul to Rome.
 - i. _____ unusual
 - ii. Most likely because Festus and/or Agrippa _____ the Centurion that Paul was innocent and should be treated as such.

- b. **God** caused Julius, the Centurion, to show _____ to Paul, allowing Paul to visit friends for care and sustenance. (27:3)
- c. **God** provided a _____ harbor in Malta, after a bad decision was made to continue on.
- i. This was normally the time to winter in a port or harbor.
 - ii. The storm that came up was a long lasting _____ (27:27).
 - iii. God sent an angel to speak to Paul, telling him that everyone would survive the pending shipwreck.
 - iv. God allowed Paul to gain the _____ of the Centurion so that he stopped the sailor from deserting the ship. (27:30-32)
 - v. God _____ the ship, in the middle of a hurricane, to land on the tiny little island of Malta, in the middle of the Mediterranean sea, in an undeveloped harbor later named Paul' Bay. (27:27-28:1)
 - vi. The people of Malta showed all 276 people from the ship _____ kindness. (28:2)
- d. God kept Paul safe from the bite of a _____ viper. (28:3-6)
- e. God allowed Paul to _____ to the people of Malta, gain their favor, and then _____ hospitality while on Malta (3 months), and supplies when it was time to leave. (28:7-11)
- f. God provided _____ in route to provide for Paul's needs, as well as in Rome to meet him and encourage him upon his arrival. (28:11-16)

What will God do, if necessary, to keep a promise?

1. He will use family, friends, and even strangers to _____ you from any harm that will keep you from receiving your promise.
2. He will provide _____ to provide for, encourage, and care for you.
3. He will steer a ship through a hurricane, into a safe harbor, that has not even been officially discovered or developed yet, if _____.
4. He will provide _____ for you to serve others and for others to serve you in a way that sustains you and preserves you for your intended future.
5. He will win you _____ with the people when it matters, so that you can continue forward on his mission.

Promises that God has given us that he will move mountains to fulfill.

- John 16:33 In this world you will have trouble, But take heart!
I have overcome the world.
- Psalm 32:8 I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go, I will counsel
you with my loving eye on you.
- Psalm 37:23-24 The Lord makes firm the steps of the one who delights in him; though he
may stumble, he will not fall, for the Lord upholds him with his hand.
- Matt 11:28-29 Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you
rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and
humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.
- 2 Cor 12:9 My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.
- Isaiah 40:31 Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on
wings like Eagles, they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and
not be faint.
- Philippians 4:6-7 Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and
petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace
of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and
your minds in Christ Jesus.
- Romans 8:28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love
him, who have been called according to his promise.
- Isaiah 41:13 Do not fear, I will help you
- James 1:5 If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to
all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.
- James 4:7 Submit yourselves, then to God. Resist the Devil, and he will flee from
you.
- Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own
understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your
paths straight.
- Hebrews 13:5 I will never leave you; never will I forsake you