

# Acts 21:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And finding a ship sailing over unto Phenicia, we went aboard, and set forth.

## Analysis

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**And finding a ship sailing over unto Phenicia, we went aboard, and set forth**—The simplicity of Luke's 'we' narrative (indicating his personal presence) masks the significance: Paul's final journey to Jerusalem despite prophetic warnings of imprisonment (Acts 21:4, 11). The Greek ἀνεύρουντες (aneurontes, 'finding') suggests providential discovery—not chance but divine orchestration of Paul's path toward suffering.

Phoenicia (modern Lebanon) represented the coastal route to Judea. This maritime leg bypassed overland dangers but couldn't evade the spiritual destination: chains awaited in Jerusalem. Paul's resolute **we went aboard** demonstrates how knowing God's will (including suffering) doesn't paralyze but propels obedience. The journey's mundane details—ships, ports, embarkation—frame profound spiritual courage: Paul sailed toward imprisonment as steadily as toward any missionary field.

## Historical Context

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This occurred circa AD 57 during Paul's third missionary journey, following three years in Ephesus and travels through Macedonia and Greece. The 'we' sections of Acts (16:10-17, 20:5-21:18, 27:1-28:16) indicate Luke's eyewitness presence. Phoenician ports like Tyre and Sidon had significant Christian communities by this time, descended from Hellenistic Jewish believers scattered after Stephen's

martyrdom (Acts 11:19). Paul's route traced early Christianity's geographic expansion.

## Related Passages

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**Psalm 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

## Study Questions

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1. How does Paul's willingness to sail toward prophesied suffering challenge your approach to obedience when God's path leads through hardship?
2. What 'ships' is God providing for your journey—ordinary means for extraordinary purposes?

## Interlinear Text

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καὶ εὑρόντες πλοῖον διαπερῶν εἰς Φοινίκην ἐπιβάντες  
And finding a ship sailing over unto Phenicia we went aboard  
G2532 G2147 G4143 G1276 G1519 G5403 G1910

ἀνήχθημεν

and set forth

G321

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