

Acts 27:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And said unto them, Sirs, I perceive that this voyage will be with hurt and much damage, not only of the lading and ship, but also of our lives.

Analysis

I perceive (θεωρῶ, theōrō)—Paul's verb suggests careful observation and spiritual insight, not mere opinion. His warning specified **hurt and much damage** (ὕβρεως καὶ πολλῆς ζημίας, hybreōs kai pollēs zēmias)—violence and great loss, not only to cargo (**the lading**) and ship, but to **our lives** (τῶν ψυχῶν, tōn psychōn, literally 'souls'). This proved partially accurate: all survived (27:44) but ship and cargo were lost. Paul's prophecy demonstrates that spiritual gifting operates even in secular contexts; God's servants can speak authoritatively about practical matters when guided by the Spirit.

Historical Context

Paul spoke from experience—2 Corinthians 11:25 mentions three prior shipwrecks (before this one). As a seasoned traveler who had sailed extensively throughout the Mediterranean, his nautical knowledge combined with spiritual discernment. The economic pressure to continue was enormous: grain ships carried Rome's food supply from Egypt.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. How does God use your natural experience and spiritual gifting together for his purposes?
2. When have you faced situations where economic or practical pressures tempted you to ignore spiritual warning?

Interlinear Text

λέγων αὐτοῖς, Ἄνδρες θεωρῶ ὅτι μετὰ ὕβρεως καὶ
And said unto them Sirs I perceive that with hurt also
G3004 G846 G435 G2334 G3754 G3326 G5196 G2532

πολλῆς ζημίας οὐ μόνον τοῦ φόρτου καὶ τοῦ πλοίου
much damage not only of the lading also ship
G4183 G2209 G3756 G3440 G3588 G5414 G2532 G4143

ἀλλὰ καὶ τῶν ψυχῶν ἡμῶν μέλλειν ἔσεσθαι τὸν
but also lives of our will be
G235 G2532 G3588 G5590 G2257 G3195 G2071 G3588

πλοῦν
this voyage
G4144

Additional Cross-References

Amos 3:7 (Parallel theme): Surely the Lord GOD will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets.

Daniel 2:30 (Parallel theme): But as for me, this secret is not revealed to me for any wisdom that I have more than any living, but for their sakes that shall make known the interpretation to the king, and that thou mightest know the thoughts of thy heart.

Psalms 25:14 (Parallel theme): The secret of the LORD is with them that fear him; and he will shew them his covenant.

