

# Acts 27:13

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And when the south wind blew softly, supposing that they had obtained their purpose, loosing thence, they sailed close by Crete.

## Analysis

**When the south wind blew softly**—The gentle notos (south wind) seemed to confirm their plan's wisdom, a common deception when circumstances appear to validate wrong choices. **Supposing that they had obtained their purpose** (δόξαντες τῆς προθέσεως κεκρατηκέναι, doxantes tēs prothēseōs kekratēkenai) —'thinking they had mastered their objective.' Human presumption at its peak: favorable conditions misinterpreted as divine approval. **Loosing thence, they sailed close by Crete**—they hugged the coastline for safety, unaware that within hours the gentle breeze would become a typhoon. Satan often permits initial 'success' in disobedient ventures to deepen eventual destruction.

## Historical Context

The south wind allowed them to sail west along Crete's southern coast toward Phoenix. In ancient navigation, pilots kept land in sight when possible. The gentle conditions were typical of the brief calm periods before Mediterranean autumn storms. Within hours, their confidence would turn to terror.

## Related Passages

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

## Study Questions

---

1. When have favorable circumstances tempted you to interpret God's silence as approval?
2. How do you distinguish between God's genuine blessing and Satan's temporary permission in your decisions?

## Interlinear Text

---

Ὑποπνεύσαντος δὲ νότου δόξαντες τῆς  
**blew softly** **And** **when the south wind** **supposing** **G3588**  
G5285 G1161 G3558 G1380

προθέσεως κεκρατηκέναι ἀραντες ἄσσον παρελέγοντο  
**their purpose** **that they had obtained** **loosing** **close by** **thence they sailed**  
G4286 G2902 G142 G788 G3881

τὴν Κρήτην  
G3588 **Crete**  
G2914

---

From KJV Study • kjvstudy.org