

Acts 27:16

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And running under a certain island which is called Clauda, we had much work to come by the boat:

Analysis

Running under a certain island which is called Clauda—The small island (modern Gavdos) 23 miles south of Crete provided brief shelter (its lee side). **We had much work to come by the boat** (μόλις ἰσχύσαμεν περικρατεῖς γενέσθαι τῆς σκάφης, *molis ischysamen perikrateis genesthai tēs skaphēs*)—‘with difficulty we got control of the ship's boat.’ The skiff, normally towed behind, was waterlogged and nearly lost. Securing it required all hands in violent seas. This detail shows Luke's eyewitness accuracy—an invented story wouldn't include such mundane nautical crisis. The preserved boat later saved all 276 lives (27:30-32, 44), showing God's providence in small mercies during great trials.

Historical Context

Clauda (or Cauda) is a small island about 7.5 miles long, 23 miles south of Crete. Its eastern side provided temporary lee shelter from the northeaster. The ship's boat (skiff) was essential for ferrying people and supplies to shore, and later for the crew's attempted escape (27:30). Losing it would have been catastrophic.

Related Passages

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. How has God preserved seemingly small resources during your 'storms' that later proved essential?
2. What does the crew's desperate struggle to secure the boat teach about practical faithfulness during crisis?

Interlinear Text

νησίον	δέ	τι	ὑποδραμόντες	καλούμενον	Κλαύδην,
island	And	a certain	running under	which is called	Clauda
G3519	G1161	G5100	G5295	G2564	G2802
μόλις	ἰσχύσαμεν	περικρατεῖς	γενέσθαι	τῆς	σκάφης
much	we had	to come by			the boat
G3433	G2480	G4031	G1096	G3588	G4627

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