

Acts 27:24

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Saying, Fear not, Paul; thou must be brought before Caesar:
and, lo, God hath given thee all them that sail with thee.

Analysis

Fear not, Paul; thou must be brought before Caesar—The divine 'must' (δεῖ, it is necessary) signals prophetic inevitability, echoing Jesus' passion predictions. Paul's Roman trial serves God's purposes for gospel advance, not merely political events. The stunning addition: **God hath given thee all them that sail with thee** (κεχάρισται, has graciously granted)—276 lives spared for one apostle's sake demonstrates intercession's power. This echoes Abraham's intercession for Sodom (Genesis 18) and Joseph preserving Egypt (Genesis 45:7). Believers become conduits of God's blessing to unbelievers.

Historical Context

Paul had earlier been promised he would testify in Rome (Acts 23:11). This reaffirmation came when circumstances seemed to contradict that promise. The Roman centurion Julius and 275 others were saved because of God's purpose for Paul—a remarkable testimony to providence overruling disaster.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

1 John 4:8 — God is love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. How does God's 'must' for your life bring courage when circumstances contradict His promises?
2. In what situations has your presence brought blessing or protection to unbelievers around you?

Interlinear Text

λέγων,	Μὴ	φοβοῦ	Παῦλε	Καίσαρί	σε	δεῖ	παραστῆναι
Saying	not	Fear	Paul	Caesar	thou	must	be brought before
G3004	G3361	G5399	G3972	G2541	G4571	G1163	G3936
καὶ	ἰδού,	κεχάρισταί	σοι	ὁ	θεὸς	πάντας	τοὺς
and	lo	hath given	thee	G3588	God	all	G3588
G2532	G2400	G5483	G4671		G2316	G3956	
πλέοντας	μετὰ	σοῦ					
them that sail	with	thee					
G4126	G3326	G4675					

Additional Cross-References

Acts 23:11 (References Paul): And the night following the Lord stood by him, and said, Be of good cheer, Paul: for as thou hast testified of me in Jerusalem, so must thou bear witness also at Rome.

Matthew 10:28 (Parallel theme): And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

Acts 9:15 (Parallel theme): But the Lord said unto him, Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel:

James 5:16 (Parallel theme): Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

Revelation 1:17 (Parallel theme): And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead. And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, Fear not; I am the first and the last:

Acts 27:37 (Parallel theme): And we were in all in the ship two hundred threescore and sixteen souls.

Genesis 19:29 (References God): And it came to pass, when God destroyed the cities of the plain, that God remembered Abraham, and sent Lot out of the midst of the overthrow, when he overthrew the cities in the which Lot dwelt.

Genesis 12:2 (Parallel theme): And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing:

Genesis 15:1 (Parallel theme): After these things the word of the LORD came unto Abram in a vision, saying, Fear not, Abram: I am thy shield, and thy exceeding great reward.

2 Kings 6:16 (Parallel theme): And he answered, Fear not: for they that be with us are more than they that be with them.