

Acts 27:25

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Wherefore, sirs, be of good cheer: for I believe God, that it shall be even as it was told me.

Analysis

Wherefore, sirs, be of good cheer (εὐθυμεῖτε, euthymeite)—Paul uses the imperative form meaning "take courage" or "be cheerful," the same root Jesus used in John 16:33 (tharseite). Despite being a prisoner, Paul speaks with apostolic authority to seasoned sailors and Roman soldiers.

For I believe God (πιστεύω γὰρ τῷ Θεῷ, pisteuō gar tō theō)—This is saving faith (pistis) demonstrated under trial. Paul's confidence rests not in circumstances but in God's revealed word through the angel (v. 23-24). The conjunction **gar** ("for") grounds his exhortation in divine revelation. **That it shall be even as it was told me**—Paul affirms the reliability of God's promise. This echoes Abraham's faith (Romans 4:21) and models the Christian response to adversity: believing God's word despite contrary circumstances.

Historical Context

This occurred during Paul's voyage to Rome as a prisoner (AD 59-60), likely sailing from Myra to Malta via Crete during dangerous autumn weather. Ancient Mediterranean shipping typically ceased November-March. Paul had already warned against sailing (v. 10), but the centurion trusted the ship's pilot. After fourteen days drifting in a northeaster storm, all 276 aboard faced certain death until Paul's angelic visitation brought divine assurance.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. When facing your own "storms," do you ground your confidence in God's revealed promises in Scripture, or in favorable circumstances?
2. How does Paul's credibility among unbelievers (earned through earlier wisdom, v. 10) give him a platform to testify to God's faithfulness in crisis?

Interlinear Text

διὸ	εὐθυμεῖτε	ἄνδρες·	πιστεύω	γὰρ	τῷ	θεῷ	ὅτι
Wherefore	be of good cheer	sirs	I believe	for	G3588	God	that
G1352	G2114	G435	G4100	G1063		G2316	G3754
οὕτως	ἔσται	καθ'	διν	τρόπον	λελάληταί	μοι	
G3779	it shall be	even	G3739	as	it was told	me	
	G2071	G2596		G5158	G2980	G3427	

Additional Cross-References

Luke 1:45 (Faith): And blessed is she that believed: for there shall be a performance of those things which were told her from the Lord.

Numbers 23:19 (Good): God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?

2 Chronicles 20:20 (Faith): And they rose early in the morning, and went forth into the wilderness of Tekoa: and as they went forth, Jehoshaphat stood and said, Hear me, O Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem; Believe in the LORD your God, so shall ye be established; believe his prophets, so shall ye prosper.

2 Timothy 1:12 (Faith): For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day.

Acts 27:11 (Faith): Nevertheless the centurion believed the master and the owner of the ship, more than those things which were spoken by Paul.

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