

What Revival Looks Like

HOW REVIVAL ACTS

Acts 28:1-6



FIRED UP

Acts 28:1 And when they were escaped, then they knew that the island was called Melita.

2 And the barbarous people shewed us no little kindness: for they kindled a fire, and received us every one, because of the present rain, and because of the cold.

3 And when Paul had gathered a bundle of sticks, and laid *them* on the fire, there came a viper out of the heat, and fastened on his hand.

4 And when the barbarians saw the *venomous* beast hang on his hand, they said among themselves, No doubt this man is a murderer, whom, though he hath escaped the sea, yet vengeance suffereth not to live.

5 And he shook off the beast into the fire, and felt no harm.

6 Howbeit they looked when he should have swollen, or fallen down dead suddenly: but after they had looked a great while, and saw no harm come to him, they changed their minds, and said that he was a god.

I. THE ORGANIZATION

II. THE OPERATION

III. THE OPERATIVES: THE FOUNDING EMPHASIS – SIMON, 2:1-5:42

IV. THE OPERATIVES: THE FORWARDING EMPHASIS – STEPHEN, 6:1-12:25

V. THE OPERATIVES: THE FOUNDATIONAL EMPHASIS – SAUL/PAUL THE PIONEER, 13:1-21:26

VI. THE OPERATIVES: THE FOUNDATIONAL EMPHASIS – SAUL/PAUL THE PRISONER, 21:27-28:31

(Section 1 – Paul's Treatment as a Prisoner, 21:27-23:37)

(Section 2 – Paul's Trial as a Prisoner, 24:1—26:32)

(Section 3 – Paul's Travels as a Prisoner, 27:1—28:31)

A. Practicing the Presence of God, 27:1-44

1. The Start, 27:1-2

2. The Stops, 27:3-8

3. The Storm, 27:9-19

4. The Stress, 27:20-29



https://www.conformingtojesus.com/images/webpages/pauls_voyage_to_rome_map1.jpg

B. Proving the Power of God, 28:1-31

1. Power over Serpents, 28:1-6

a. What the People Wrought, 28:1-2

(1) The Name of the Island, 28:1

Acts 28:1 And when they were escaped, then they knew that the island was called Melita.



<https://thatbibleblog.com/2015/12/05/shipwrecked-on-melita-malta-or-mljet/>



<https://www.posterlounge.com/malta-map-pr639467.html/>

(2) The Nature of the Islanders, 28:2

Acts 28:2 And the barbarous people shewed us no little kindness: for they kindled a fire, and received us every one, because of the present rain, and because of the cold.

Rom. 1:14 I am debtor both to **the Greeks**, and to **the Barbarians**; both to the wise, and to the unwise.

1 Cor. 14:11 Therefore if I know not the meaning of the voice, I shall be unto him that speaketh **a barbarian**, and he that speaketh *shall be a barbarian unto me*.

b. What the People Thought, 28:3-6

(1) They Thought Paul Was Guilty, 28:3-4

(a) What They Saw, 28:3

Acts 28:3 And when Paul had gathered a bundle of sticks, and laid *them* on the fire, there came a viper out of the heat, and fastened on his hand.

Original Word: ἔχιδνα

Transliteration: echidna

Definition: a viper

éxidna – properly, a poisonous snake; (figuratively) incisive words that deliver *deadly venom*, with the use of blasphemy.

<https://biblehub.com/greek/2191.htm>

(b) What They Said, 28:4

Acts 28:4 And when the barbarians saw the *venomous* beast hang on his hand, **they said among themselves, No doubt this man is a murderer, whom, though he hath escaped the sea, yet vengeance suffereth not to live.**

Gen. 9:5 And surely your blood of your lives will I require; at the hand of every beast will I require it, and at the hand of man; at the hand of every man's brother **will I require the life of man.**

Num. 35:31 Moreover ye shall **take no satisfaction for the life of a murderer, which is guilty of death:** but he shall be surely put to death.

Rom. 2:14 For when **the Gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law,** these, having not the law, are a law unto themselves:

(2) They Thought Paul Was God, 28:5-6

Acts 28:5 And he shook off the beast into the fire, and felt no harm.

6 Howbeit they looked when he should have swollen, or fallen down dead suddenly: but after they had looked a great while, and saw no harm come to him, **they changed their minds, and said that he was a god.**

Mark 16:18 **They shall take up serpents**; and if they drink any deadly thing, **it shall not hurt them**; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.

Luke 10:19 **Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions**, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.

How can we shake off tragedies that rob us of our joy?

Shaking Off the Viper

1. Take Action – Paul did not leave the viper stay fastened to his hand.
 - ❖ Face the adversity and seek a remedy = perseverance.
 - ❖ Follow the advice of one spiritually respected = prayer.
2. Treasure Assurances – Remember the promises of the Lord and His Word.
3. Trust Always – Prov. 3:5-6, Rom. 8:28, Heb. 13:5

Prov. 3:5 Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. 6 In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

Rom. 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to *his purpose*.

Heb. 13:5 Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.

Psa. 34:4 I sought the LORD, and he heard me, and delivered me from all my fears. ...

18 The LORD is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit.

1 Sam. 17:37 David said moreover, **The LORD that delivered me out of** the paw of the lion, and **out of** the paw of the bear, he will deliver me **out of** the hand of this Philistine. And Saul said unto David, Go, and **the LORD be with thee.**

Isa. 41:10 Fear thou not; for I *am* with thee: be not dismayed; for I *am* thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

Psa. 23:1 **The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.**

2 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

3 He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Isa. 26:3 Thou wilt **keep *him* in perfect peace, *whose mind is stayed on thee***: because he trusteth in thee.

Phil. 4:6 Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

7 And **the peace of God**, which passeth all understanding, shall **keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus**.

8 Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are **true**, whatsoever things **are honest**, whatsoever things **are just**, whatsoever things **are pure**, whatsoever things **are lovely**, whatsoever things **are of good report**; if *there be* any **virtue**, and if *there be* any **praise**, **think on these things**.

9 Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and **the God of peace shall be with you**.

Application

- ❖ Paul's life was endangered several times and was not yet in Rome.
- ❖ Barbarous, unsaved people have the capacity to show kindness and concern that too often puts professing Christians to shame.
- ❖ Sometimes, while doing menial, harmless and routine activities, tragedy strikes.
- ❖ When we encounter unfortunate circumstances, others may judge and offer opinions that are not needed, nor an accurate appraisal of the situation.
- ❖ When we are "snake bit," we need to shake it off and stay focused upon Scriptural priorities.

- ❖ The unsaved, or backslidden, shallow Christians too often are “fickle faultfinders,” changing from condemnation to commendation with exaggerated acclamation.
- ❖ Such double-mindedness (Jas. 1:8) should motivate a strong believer to “consider the source” and become oblivious to frivolous opinions.



Conclusion

Gal. 6:14 But God forbid that I should glory, **save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world. ...**

17 **From henceforth let no man trouble me: for I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus.**