

"we" sections in Acts (16:10-17; 20:5 - 21:1-18)

Adramyttium (2)

-Most likely the embarkation point was Caesarea, which was a major port city and where Paul was imprisoned

-Ship was from Adramyttium, which was a seaport of Mysia on the northwest coast of Asia Minor

First leg of the voyage (2-8):

->Sidon (3)

->Cyprus (4)

->Cilicia (5)

->Pamphylia (5)

->Myra (5)*

->Cnidus (7)

->Crete (7)

->Fair Havens (8)

*Changed ships in Myra (Alexandria)

Paul's Warning (10)

-Paul had experienced shipwreck (2Co 11:25)

-The centurion, pilot, and "majority" ignored his warning and decided to try and make it to Phoenix for the winter (12)

Second leg of the Journey (13-16):

->Crete (13)

->Cauda (16)*

*Approximately 23 miles off course

Lee (16) - Side of island that faces away from the wind

Syrtis (17) - An area of sandbars off the North African coast

¹And when it was decided that we should sail for *Italy*, they delivered Paul and some other prisoners to a centurion of the *Augustan Cohort* named Julius.

²And embarking in a ship of Adramyttium, which was about to sail to the ports along the coast of Asia, we put to sea, accompanied by Aristarchus, a Macedonian from Thessalonica.

³The next day we put in at Sidon. And Julius treated Paul kindly and gave him leave to go to his friends and be cared for.

⁴And putting out to sea from there we sailed under the lee of Cyprus, because the *winds were against us*.

⁵And when we had sailed across the open sea along the coast of Cilicia and Pamphylia, we came to Myra in Lycia.

⁶There the centurion found a ship of Alexandria sailing for Italy and put us on board.

⁷We sailed slowly for a number of days and arrived with difficulty off Cnidus, and as the *wind did not allow us to go farther*, we sailed under the lee of Crete off Salmone.

⁸Coasting along it with difficulty, we came to a place called Fair Havens, near which was the city of Lasea.

⁹Since much time had passed, and the *voyage was now dangerous* because even *the Fast was already over*, Paul advised them,

¹⁰saying, "*Sirs, I perceive that the voyage will be with injury and much loss, not only of the cargo and the ship, but also of our lives.*"

¹¹But the centurion paid more attention to the pilot and to the owner of the ship than to what Paul said.

¹²And because the harbor was not suitable to spend the winter in, the majority decided to put out to sea from there, on the chance that somehow they could reach Phoenix, a harbor of Crete, facing both southwest and northwest, and *spend the winter there*.

¹³Now when the *south wind blew gently*, supposing that they had obtained their purpose, they weighed anchor and sailed along Crete, close to the shore.

¹⁴But soon a *tempestuous wind, called the northeaster*, struck down from the land.

¹⁵And when the ship was caught and could not face the wind, we gave way to it and were driven along.

¹⁶Running under the *lee of a small island* called Cauda, we managed with difficulty to secure the ship's boat.

¹⁷After hoisting it up, they used supports to undergird the ship. Then, fearing that they would *run aground on the Syrtis*, they lowered the gear, and thus they were driven along.

¹⁸Since we were violently storm-tossed, they began the next day to *jettison the cargo*.

¹⁹And on the third day they *threw the ship's tackle overboard* with their own hands.

²⁰When neither sun nor stars appeared for many days, and *no small tempest* lay on us, *all hope of our being saved was at last abandoned*. <- They knew no other course of action

²¹Since they *had been without food for a long time*, Paul stood up among them and said, "*Men, you should have listened to me* and not have set sail from Crete and *incurred this injury and loss*.

Companions (1-2)

-As a Roman citizen, Paul was likely afforded a more favored position than other prisoners. May explain why he was allowed travelling companions.

-**Luke:** as evidenced by the resumption of the use of "we." Possibly that he was allowed to accompany Paul as his personal physician.

-**Aristarchus:** He is included in Col 4:10 and Philemon 24 as sending greetings from Rome.

"Fast was already over" (9)

-Refers to the Day of Atonement (Lev 16; 23:26-32)

-This places the journey in the Winter months (Sep / Oct).

-Wind would be blowing to the East. Sailing was difficult due to the wind being against them. (4,7-8)

-Sailing on the Mediterranean after Sep 14 was dangerous and after Nov 11 was considered impossible.

"Paul stood up" (21)

Paul is transitioning from prisoner to leader of this voyage.

**Nearing Land /
Fathoms (27-29)**

-The sailors suspected they were nearing land.

-A "fathom" was approximately 6 ft, so first measurement was 120' and the second was 90'

"under pretense" (30)

-Paul saw through their pretense and convinced the centurion to foil their escape (31)

²²Yet now I urge you to take heart, for there will be *no loss of life among you*, but *only of the ship*. <- Compare to v.10

²³For this very night there stood before me an *angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I worship*,

²⁴and he said, '*Do not be afraid, Paul; you must stand before Caesar*. And behold, God has granted you all those who sail with you.'

²⁵So take heart, men, for *I have faith in God that it will be exactly as I have been told*. <- God had previously told Paul he would go to Rome (23:11)

²⁶But *we must run aground on some island*."

²⁷When the *fourteenth night* had come, as we were being driven across the Adriatic Sea, about midnight the sailors *suspected that they were nearing land*.

²⁸So they took a sounding and found *twenty fathoms*. A little farther on they took a sounding again and found *fifteen fathoms*.

²⁹And fearing that we might run on the rocks, they let down four anchors from the stern and prayed for day to come.

³⁰And as the *sailors were seeking to escape from the ship*, and had lowered the ship's boat into the sea *under pretense* of laying out anchors from the bow,

³¹Paul said to the centurion and the soldiers, "*Unless these men stay in the ship, you cannot be saved*."

³²Then the soldiers cut away the ropes of the ship's boat and let it go.

³³As day was about to dawn, Paul urged them all to take some food, saying, "*Today is the fourteenth day that you have continued in suspense and without food, having taken nothing*."

³⁴Therefore *I urge you to take some food*. For it will give you strength, for not a hair is to perish from the head of any of you."

³⁵And when he had said these things, he took bread, and giving thanks to God in the presence of all he broke it and began to eat.

³⁶Then they all were encouraged and ate some food themselves.

³⁷(We were in all *276 persons* in the ship.)

³⁸And when they had eaten enough, *they lightened the ship, throwing out the wheat into the sea*.

³⁹Now when it was day, *they did not recognize the land*, but they noticed a bay with a beach, on which they planned if possible to *run the ship ashore*.

³⁹Now when it was day, they did not recognize the land, but they noticed a bay with a beach, on which they planned if possible to run the ship ashore.

⁴⁰So they cast off the anchors and left them in the sea, at the same time loosening the ropes that tied the rudders. Then hoisting the foresail to the wind they made for the beach.

⁴¹But striking a reef, they ran the vessel aground. The bow stuck and remained immovable, and the stern was being broken up by the surf.

⁴²The soldiers' *plan was to kill the prisoners, lest any should swim away and escape*.

⁴³But the centurion, wishing to save Paul, kept them from carrying out their plan. He ordered those who could swim to jump overboard first and make for the land,

⁴⁴and the rest on planks or on pieces of the ship. And so it was that *all were brought safely to land*.

We (27, 29, 37)

-The amazing level of detail comes from Luke being an eyewitness to the events

Adriatic Sea (27)

-Literally "the sea of Adria"

- "Adria" was a name given to the wide sweep of the Mediterranean lying between Greece, Italy, and Africa

-This was not the Adriatic Sea as we know it today.

"kill the prisoners"

The punishment for allowing a prisoner to escape was death (compare 12:19)

Aristarchus

Colossians 4:10 (ESV)

¹⁰ Aristarchus my fellow prisoner greets you, and Mark the cousin of Barnabas (concerning whom you have received instructions—if he comes to you, welcome him),

Philemon 24 (ESV)

²⁴ and so do Mark, Aristarchus, Demas, and Luke, my fellow workers.

Day of Atonement / Yom Kippur

Leviticus 16 (ESV)

¹ The LORD spoke to Moses after the death of the two sons of Aaron, when they drew near before the LORD and died, ² and the LORD said to Moses, “Tell Aaron your brother not to come at any time into the Holy Place inside the veil, before the mercy seat that is on the ark, so that he may not die. For I will appear in the cloud over the mercy seat. ³ But in this way Aaron shall come into the Holy Place: with a bull from the herd for a sin offering and a ram for a burnt offering. ⁴ He shall put on the holy linen coat and shall have the linen undergarment on his body, and he shall tie the linen sash around his waist, and wear the linen turban; these are the holy garments. He shall bathe his body in water and then put them on. ⁵ And he shall take from the congregation of the people of Israel two male goats for a sin offering, and one ram for a burnt offering.

⁶ “Aaron shall offer the bull as a sin offering for himself and shall make atonement for himself and for his house. ⁷ Then he shall take the two goats and set them before the LORD at the entrance of the tent of meeting. ⁸ And Aaron shall cast lots over the two goats, one lot for the LORD and the other lot for Azazel. ⁹ And Aaron shall present the goat on which the lot fell for the LORD and use it as a sin offering, ¹⁰ but the goat on which the lot fell for Azazel shall be presented alive before the LORD to make atonement over it, that it may be sent away into the wilderness to Azazel.

¹¹ “Aaron shall present the bull as a sin offering for himself, and shall make atonement for himself and for his house. He shall kill the bull as a sin offering for himself. ¹² And he shall take a censer full of coals of fire from the altar before the LORD, and two handfuls of sweet incense beaten small, and he shall bring it inside the veil ¹³ and put the incense on the fire before the LORD, that the cloud of the incense may cover the mercy seat that is over the testimony, so that he does not die. ¹⁴ And he shall take some of the blood of the bull and sprinkle it with his finger on the front of the mercy seat on the east side, and in front of the mercy seat he shall sprinkle some of the blood with his finger seven times.

¹⁵ “Then he shall kill the goat of the sin offering that is for the people and bring its blood inside the veil and do with its blood as he did with the blood of the bull, sprinkling it over the mercy seat and in front of the mercy seat. ¹⁶ Thus he shall make atonement for the Holy Place, because of the uncleannesses of the people of Israel and because of their transgressions, all their sins. And so he shall do for the tent of meeting, which dwells with them in the midst of their uncleannesses. ¹⁷ No one may be in the tent of

meeting from the time he enters to make atonement in the Holy Place until he comes out and has made atonement for himself and for his house and for all the assembly of Israel. ¹⁸ Then he shall go out to the altar that is before the LORD and make atonement for it, and shall take some of the blood of the bull and some of the blood of the goat, and put it on the horns of the altar all around. ¹⁹ And he shall sprinkle some of the blood on it with his finger seven times, and cleanse it and consecrate it from the uncleannesses of the people of Israel.

²⁰ "And when he has made an end of atoning for the Holy Place and the tent of meeting and the altar, he shall present the live goat. ²¹ And Aaron shall lay both his hands on the head of the live goat, and confess over it all the iniquities of the people of Israel, and all their transgressions, all their sins. And he shall put them on the head of the goat and send it away into the wilderness by the hand of a man who is in readiness. ²² The goat shall bear all their iniquities on itself to a remote area, and he shall let the goat go free in the wilderness.

²³ "Then Aaron shall come into the tent of meeting and shall take off the linen garments that he put on when he went into the Holy Place and shall leave them there. ²⁴ And he shall bathe his body in water in a holy place and put on his garments and come out and offer his burnt offering and the burnt offering of the people and make atonement for himself and for the people. ²⁵ And the fat of the sin offering he shall burn on the altar. ²⁶ And he who lets the goat go to Azazel shall wash his clothes and bathe his body in water, and afterward he may come into the camp. ²⁷ And the bull for the sin offering and the goat for the sin offering, whose blood was brought in to make atonement in the Holy Place, shall be carried outside the camp. Their skin and their flesh and their dung shall be burned up with fire. ²⁸ And he who burns them shall wash his clothes and bathe his body in water, and afterward he may come into the camp.

²⁹ "And it shall be a statute to you forever that in the seventh month, on the tenth day of the month, you shall afflict yourselves and shall do no work, either the native or the stranger who sojourns among you. ³⁰ For on this day shall atonement be made for you to cleanse you. You shall be clean before the LORD from all your sins. ³¹ It is a Sabbath of solemn rest to you, and you shall afflict yourselves; it is a statute forever. ³² And the priest who is anointed and consecrated as priest in his father's place shall make atonement, wearing the holy linen garments. ³³ He shall make atonement for the holy sanctuary, and he shall make atonement for the tent of meeting and for the altar, and he shall make atonement for the priests and for all the people of the assembly. ³⁴ And this shall be a statute forever for you, that atonement may be made for the people of Israel once in the year because of all their sins." And Aaron did as the LORD commanded Moses.

Leviticus 23:26–32 (ESV)

²⁶ And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, ²⁷ "Now on the tenth day of this seventh month is the Day of Atonement. It shall be for you a time of holy convocation, and you shall afflict yourselves and present a food offering to the LORD. ²⁸ And you shall not do any work on that very day, for it is a Day of Atonement, to make atonement for you before the LORD your God. ²⁹ For whoever is not afflicted on that very day shall be cut off

from his people. ³⁰ And whoever does any work on that very day, that person I will destroy from among his people. ³¹ You shall not do any work. It is a statute forever throughout your generations in all your dwelling places. ³² It shall be to you a Sabbath of solemn rest, and you shall afflict yourselves. On the ninth day of the month beginning at evening, from evening to evening shall you keep your Sabbath."

Shipwreck

2 Corinthians 11:25 (ESV)

²⁵ Three times I was beaten with rods. Once I was stoned. Three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I was adrift at sea;

Go to Rome

Acts 23:11 (ESV)

¹¹ The following night the Lord stood by him and said, "Take courage, for as you have testified to the facts about me in Jerusalem, so you must testify also in Rome."

Escape

Acts 12:19 (ESV)

¹⁹ And after Herod searched for him and did not find him, he examined the sentries and ordered that they should be put to death. Then he went down from Judea to Caesarea and spent time there.