

Hearing God!

Text: Acts 27:9-11

Now when much time was spent, and when sailing was now dangerous, because the fast was now already past, Paul admonished them,

10 And said unto them, Sirs, I perceive that this voyage will be with hurt and much damage, not only of the lading and ship, but also of our lives.

11 Nevertheless the centurion believed the master and the owner of the ship, more than those things which were spoken by Paul.

INTRODUCTION:

This morning I shared that Paul was a man who relied on the voice of God! This passage speaks of Paul's perception that something was going to happen but they ignored his message!

We can expect to receive leadings from the Holy Spirit concerning the days ahead and like Paul they may be ignored by those we decide to share the information with. So what do we do? How do we act when what we know is not received?

1. You cannot fall prey to the spirit of fear or a spirit of bitterness toward those who reject your message!

- Psalms 91:5-12

Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day;

6 Nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday.

7 A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee.

8 Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked.

9 Because thou hast made the LORD, which is my refuge, even the most High, thy habitation;

10 There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling.

11 For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways.

12 They shall bear thee up in their hands, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone.

- Psalms 37:1-5

Fret not thyself because of evildoers, neither be thou envious against the workers of iniquity.

2 For they shall soon be cut down like the grass, and wither as the green herb.

3 Trust in the LORD, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed.

4 Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.

5 Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.

2. You must stay in faith! That means you must trust in God! (Psalms 112)

Praise ye the LORD. Blessed is the man that feareth the LORD, that delighteth greatly in his commandments.

2 His seed shall be mighty upon earth: the generation of the upright shall be blessed.

3 Wealth and riches shall be in his house: and his righteousness endureth for ever.

4 Unto the upright there ariseth light in the darkness: he is gracious, and full of compassion, and righteous.

5 A good man showeth favour, and lendeth: he will guide his affairs with discretion.

6 Surely he shall not be moved for ever: the righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance.

7 He shall not be afraid of evil tidings: his heart is fixed, trusting in the LORD.

8 His heart is established, he shall not be afraid, until he see his desire upon his enemies.

9 He hath dispersed, he hath given to the poor; his righteousness endureth for ever; his horn shall be exalted with honour.

10 The wicked shall see it, and be grieved; he shall gnash with his teeth, and melt away: the desire of the wicked shall perish.

3. Wait on the Lord for the proper timing to release His Word into the situation! (Acts 27:21-26)

But after long abstinence Paul stood forth in the midst of them, and said, Sirs, ye should have hearkened unto me, and not have loosed from Crete, and to have gained this harm and loss.

22 And now I exhort you to be of good cheer: for there shall be no loss of any man's life among you, but of the ship.

23 For there stood by me this night the angel of God, whose I am, and whom I serve,

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

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

26 Howbeit we must be cast upon a certain island.

- 4 Rules for Releasing a Word from the Lord among a resistant audience:

1. Always lean on the Lord for the right time!

(V.21)

- If God has spoken He will lead you into a time when your message will be received!

2. Stay positive no matter how bad it may seem! (V.22)

- We must always speak a message of hope regardless of the surroundings or circumstances!)

3. Never downplay the presence of God in your life! (V.23 & 24)

- Speak and acknowledge the power of God and humbly share concerning the favor of God!

4. Declare your faith in God without hesitation or reservation! (V.25 & 26)

- Always speak with confidence and declare that destiny is attached to your life!