

GLORY DAYS

Shipwrecked For God's Glory

*"Sometimes it takes a shipwreck
to get us where God wants us to go."*

Mark Batterson (Author of 'Wild Goose Chase')

"We took such a violent battering from the storm that the next day they began to throw the cargo overboard. ¹⁹ On the third day, they threw the ship's tackle overboard with their own hands. ²⁰ When neither sun nor stars appeared for many days and the storm continued raging, we finally gave up all hope of being saved." – Acts 27:18-20 (NIV 1984)

When the storms of life rage, and we've lost all hope, we must stand on the promises that God has given to us.

"⁴² The soldiers planned to kill the prisoners to prevent any of them from swimming away and escaping. ⁴³ But the centurion wanted to spare Paul's life and kept them from carrying out their plan. He ordered those who could swim to jump overboard first and get to land. ⁴⁴ The rest were to get there on planks or on pieces of the ship. In this way everyone reached land in safety.

¹ Once safely on shore, we found out that the island was called Malta. ² The islanders showed us unusual kindness. They built a fire and welcomed us all because it was raining and cold. ³ Paul gathered a pile of brushwood and, as he put it on the fire, a viper, driven out by the heat, fastened itself on his hand. ⁴ When the islanders saw the snake hanging from his hand, they said to each other, "This man must be a murderer; for though he escaped from the sea, Justice has not allowed him to live." ⁵ But Paul shook the snake off into the fire and suffered no ill effects. ⁶ The people expected him to swell up or suddenly fall dead, but after waiting a long time and seeing nothing unusual happen to him, they changed their minds and said he was a god.

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Pastor Kent Chevalier

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⁷ There was an estate nearby that belonged to Publius, the chief official of the island. He welcomed us to his home and for three days entertained us hospitably. ⁸ His father was sick in bed, suffering from fever and dysentery. Paul went in to see him and, after prayer, placed his hands on him and healed him. ⁹ When this had happened, the rest of the sick on the island came and were cured." - Acts 27:42-28:9 (NIV 1984)

Paul served others in the midst of his storm.

*The song played at the end of the sermon was 'Blessings' by Laura Story.

~ Email your testimony to kentc@northway.org ~

Small Group Questions

1. Have you ever had a shipwreck in your life? Describe.
2. Take some time to read through some of the promises of God in just the Gospels. (Matt 6:31-33, Matt 7:7-8, Matt 11:28-29, Matt 17:20, Matt 21:21-22, Matt 28:18-20, Mark 9:23, Mark 11:23-26, Luke 6:38, Luke 11:9-10, John 5:24, John 6:37, John 14:12-14, John 14:18, John 14:27, John 15:7, John 16:13, John 16:15, John 16:23)
3. Which promise speaks the most to you right now?
4. How do you typically respond to shipwrecks in your life?
5. Who is one person that you can serve today that is going through a rough season?