

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## PAUL IN ROME

*“Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivers him out of them all.” (Psalm 34:19)*

### Objectives

<i>Knowledge of God’s Will</i>	We may encounter tribulations, but God protects those who do His will.
<i>Knowledge of God</i>	God is our protector; God is faithful.
<i>Good Work</i>	Trust in God’s protection.

### A. Paul’s Journey to Rome (Acts 23:33–28:14)

#### 1. Jerusalem to Caesarea (23:33)

Paul had been arrested in Jerusalem but was sent to Caesarea to preserve his life from a group of Jews who plotted to kill him.

#### 2. Caesarea to Sidon (27:1–3)

The centurion Julius was under no obligation to give such freedom to Paul, but God opened his heart so that Paul could receive care before the long journey. Today, we may receive similar kindnesses; instead of attributing it to luck, we should remember to give thanks to God.

#### 3. Sidon to Myra (27:4–6)

#### 4. Fair Havens (27:7–12)

The centurion’s decision made sense in the eyes of man. But as God’s children, our decisions should be based on His will no matter how illogical it may seem, because God is all-knowing and all-powerful.

#### 5. Crete to Malta (27:13–28:1)

No matter what happens to us, we should trust that God is watching over us; being a child of God does not guarantee us a problem-free life, but we still have God’s protection. No matter what situation we are in, it is safely in God’s hands.

Even when we are doing God’s work, we may encounter storms in our lives. But our attitude and reaction to these hardships is a reflection of our faith, and our trust in God. God’s work in our lives is a testament to His power and authority over all, and our own actions in the face of tribulation can also be a powerful witness of God’s truth to non-believers.

#### 6. Malta to Syracuse, to Rhegium, then Puteoli (28:2–14)

Once again, Paul also served as a living testament of God’s power to those around him. God preserved Paul’s life, and also took care of him through the kindnesses of others.

### B. Paul in Rome (Acts 28:15–31)

Even as a prisoner, Paul boldly preached the gospel, and wrote several epistles to his brethren in other churches to encourage and teach them. No matter where he was or what state he was in, Paul preached the gospel and ministered to his fellow believers all the way to the end.

### Life Application: Traveling on Our Spiritual Journey

Like Paul’s journey to Rome, our spiritual journey is a long and difficult one. When we encounter obstacles, it is important to place our trust in God and continue to walk in His ways. If we do, then God will help us through it all. The Bible has several verses we can refer to about how we can trust in God: Ps 119:105; Prov 3:5–6; Prov 16:9; Mt 6:33; Jas 1:5.

