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## It Will Happen Just as He Said

By Shannon Ford January 26, 2024

### **TODAY'S READING:** Acts 27

Paul is sailing on a ship in a violent storm somewhere between the islands of Crete and Malta in the Mediterranean Sea. He and the crew have been tossed around for two solid weeks. It was so bad they threw all the cargo overboard, meaning they had just thrown away one of their purposes for even being out there. One might ask the question, "Why is an entire chapter of the Bible given to explaining this trip?" I would like to suggest one possible reason is that when it is God's will there is nothing that can stop it! It was God's expressed will that Paul go to Rome and carry the gospel there. A storm cannot stop God's will. A soldier's desire to kill all the prisoners cannot stop God's will (v. 42). The Scripture promises that God is working in us and that He will carry out His will and complete His work in us (see Philippians 1:6; 2:13).

Based on the truth of Acts 27, we see that nothing can prevent God's plan and purpose. God said Paul was going to Rome, and he did. What God said to Paul in Acts 27 is exactly what happened. I think the key verse in this chapter is verse 25, "So keep up your courage, men, for I have faith in God that it will happen just as He told me." Regardless of the hurricane-like storms that happen in our lives, we can be confident of what God says in His Word. Think for a moment on what God said is going to happen and it will.

1. Jesus Christ is going to return.
2. Evil and wrongdoing are going to be dealt with and things made right.
3. We are going to live in heaven forever with God.
4. God's plan for our lives will be accomplished.

It is safe to say that if God said it is going to happen, then it is going to happen. His Word is true. God said in the Old Testament that His Son would be born in Bethlehem, that He

and His parents would have to escape to Egypt, that He would be betrayed for thirty pieces of silver, that He would be hung between two thieves, that He would be pierced, but his bones would not be broken (which was normal in crucifixion). Guess what? It all happened just like He said it would. God said those things would happen hundreds of years before they did. God is aware that time and storms weigh on our ability to keep up our faith. That is why He said in 2 Peter 3:9, "The Lord is not slow in keeping His promise, as some understand slowness, He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance." God's Word and His desire to carry out His will for your life is going to happen, and that should bring you both encouragement and hope for the storms ahead.

**PRAYER:** Lord, in a world of confusion, chaos, and storms, we rest assured in the truths of Your Word. I pray that we will anchor our lives in God's Word and surrender our lives to You to carry out Your will. Amen.

**TOMORROW'S READING:** Weekend is for catch-up and review.

**MONDAY'S READING:** Acts 28

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