

Faithful in Rome

Acts 28:11-31[NKJV]

On July 21, 2013, by Philip Pinto @ Village Bible Church

- I. Getting to Rome (v. 11-16) [see map]
 - A. A reminder of competing religions. Significance of the ship's figurehead (v. 11). It's a "good omen."
 1. Society will try to explain God away, and refute the truth of His word.
 2. It's not always easy to credit God or refute other explanations of His activity.
 3. We must proceed in faith regardless.
 - B. The importance of a supportive body of believers (church) (v. 15)
 1. Encouragement vs. building courage/ confidence
 2. The need to be "shored up," "spurred on" (Heb. 10:24-25)
 3. The role of the church in building courage.
- II. Working in Rome with a stronger confidence that God had great things in store for using Paul in Rome (vs. 16-31).
 - A. Vision for stronger church in Rome – starting with local Jews (v. 17-22).
 1. Connecting with leaders of synagogues right away.
 2. Paul's heart was still heavy for the Jews.
 3. They were intrigued by Christianity.
 4. Paul set up to give them the gospel.
 5. These were key people to reach; they held much sway with the Jews in Rome.
 - B. Many came. Some were open. Some were not (vs. 23-28).
 1. Paul witnessed to the Jews again.
 2. He spent an entire *day* (morning till evening)
 3. Quoting Is. 6, applying it to Paul's audience: the message would fall on deaf ears. The more he preached the more they would harden their hearts.
 4. Some disputed.
 5. According to historians, whole synagogues turned to Christ!
- III. A fitting end to the book of Acts

The Trip from Malta to Rome (Acts 28:11-16)



Map source: *Illumina Bible Software Atlas*
Parenthetical notes: *Interp. Of the Acts of the Apostles*, C.H. Lenski