

Recap of 9/11/22 message by Joe Ricchuiti – Acts 27:1-20

1. Concerning Acts 27, Wiersbe writes: “Dr. Luke was certainly not writing an allegory, but he did use this exciting event to show how one man’s faith can make a big difference for him and others in the storms of life. What an encouragement to our faith.” Whatever befalls us, God can use it to strengthen us and those around us, and to challenge unbelievers.

2. One man, or one woman, or one young person of faith, willing to step out in faith, willing to trust God, be obedient to God and sensitive to God’s Word, can make a huge difference, even a saving difference, to the people around them who are enduring the challenges (“storms”) of life. Jonathan in 1 Samuel 13 & 14 is a good example of the power of one person wholly committed to God.

3. LeRoy Eims in *Daily Discipleship* writes: “Although it has been almost forty years, it seems like only yesterday that I heard Dawson Trotman (founder of The Navigators) preach to us about God’s search for a certain kind of person....One of Dawson’s recurring themes was the value of one person who is fully committed to God and he always challenged us to be that person....God is still looking for that man or woman with a heart to do His will and with a commitment to His work. Will you tell Him today that you’re available?”

4. Lessons in the “storms” and difficulties, and challenges of life. (There are six, these are the first three)

- “storms” do not always come because of some disobedience (as with Jonah), but God sometimes allows us to go through storms. Paul was not disobedient, nor was he out of God’s will.

“Christ...does not immunize Christians from problems that others in the world also face. Sometimes he miraculously delivers Christians from such situations, while at other times He gives Christians courage to endure natural and other disasters.” (Ajith Fernando quoted by Larry Richards)

- “storms” bring out what is inside, our true character. “We presume that we would be ready for battle if confronted with a great crisis, but it is not the crisis that builds something within us—it simply reveals what we are made of already.... Crises always reveal a person’s true character.”

-in spite of “storms” God is still in control, furthering His purposes