

Shipwrecked!

Acts 27:1-44



Herod's Palace Caesarea Maritime

When two years had elapsed, Felix was succeeded by Porcius Festus.
And desiring to do the Jews a favor, Felix left Paul in prison.

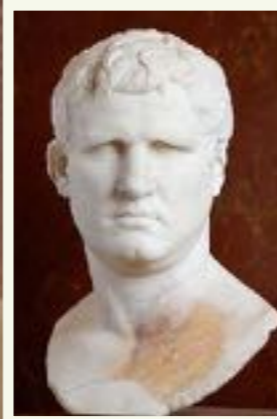
Acts 24:27



“This man could have been set free



Festus



Agrippa



Berenice



Paul

Luke's Travelogue: Caesarea to Malta



Voyage from Caesarea to Sidon

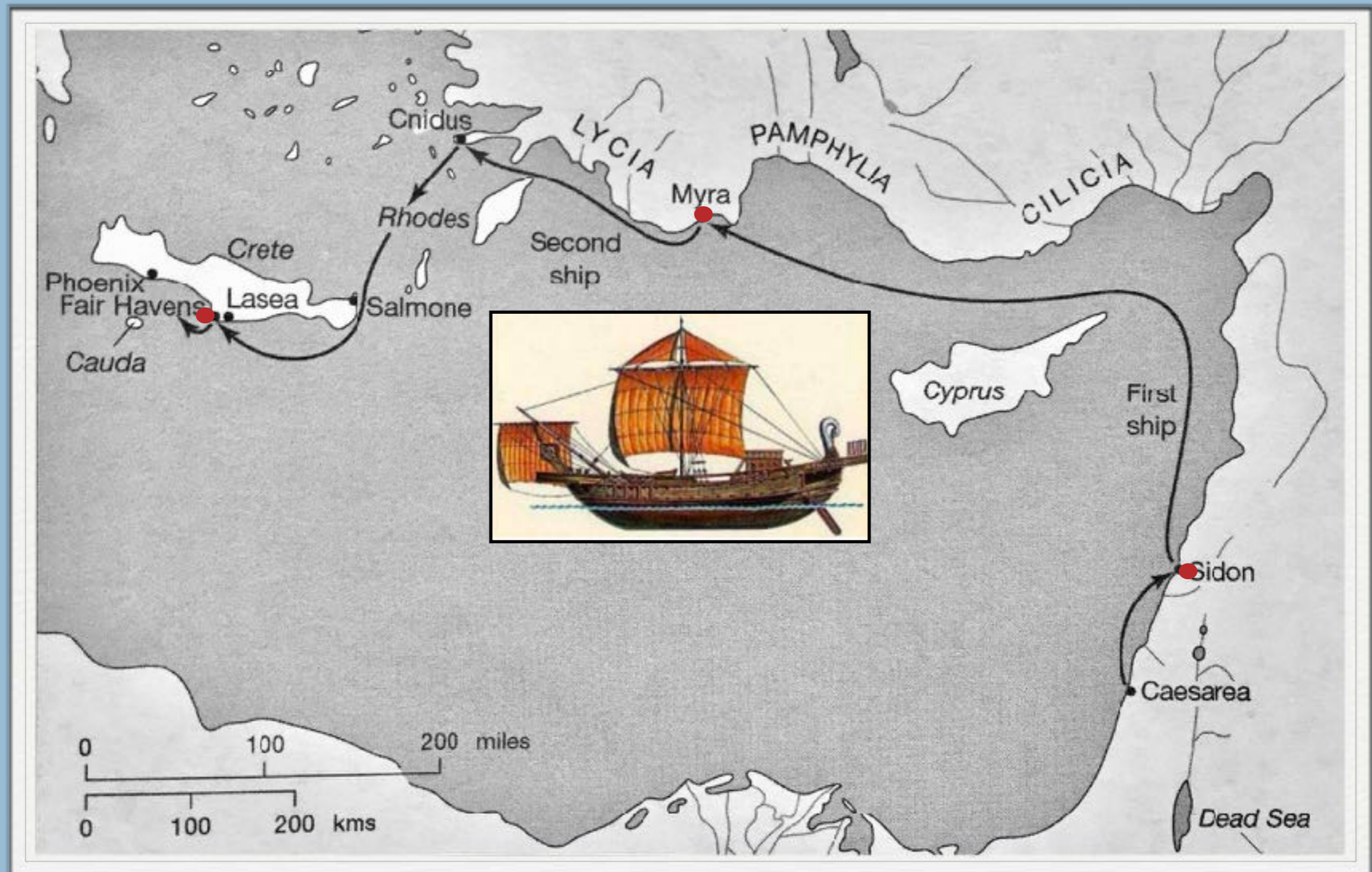


Julias the Centurion

And when it was decided that we should sail for Italy, they delivered Paul and some other prisoners to a **centurion** of the Augustan Cohort named **Julius**. And embarking in a ship of Adramyttium, which was about to sail to the ports along the coast of Asia, we put to sea, accompanied by Aristarchus, a Macedonian from Thessalonica. The next day we put in at Sidon. And Julius treated Paul kindly and gave him leave to go to his friends and be cared for.

Acts 27:1-3

Sidon to Myra, Changing Ship to Fair Havens



Paul's Advice is Not Heeded

Since much time had passed, and the voyage was now dangerous because even the Fast was already over, Paul advised them, saying, **“Sirs, I perceive that the voyage will be with injury and much loss, not only of the cargo and the ship, but also of our lives.”** But the centurion paid more attention to the pilot and to the owner of the ship than to what Paul said. And because the harbor was not suitable to spend the winter in, the majority decided to put out to sea from there, on the chance that somehow they could reach **Phoenix**, a harbor of Crete, facing both southwest and northwest, and spend the winter there.

Acts 27:9-12



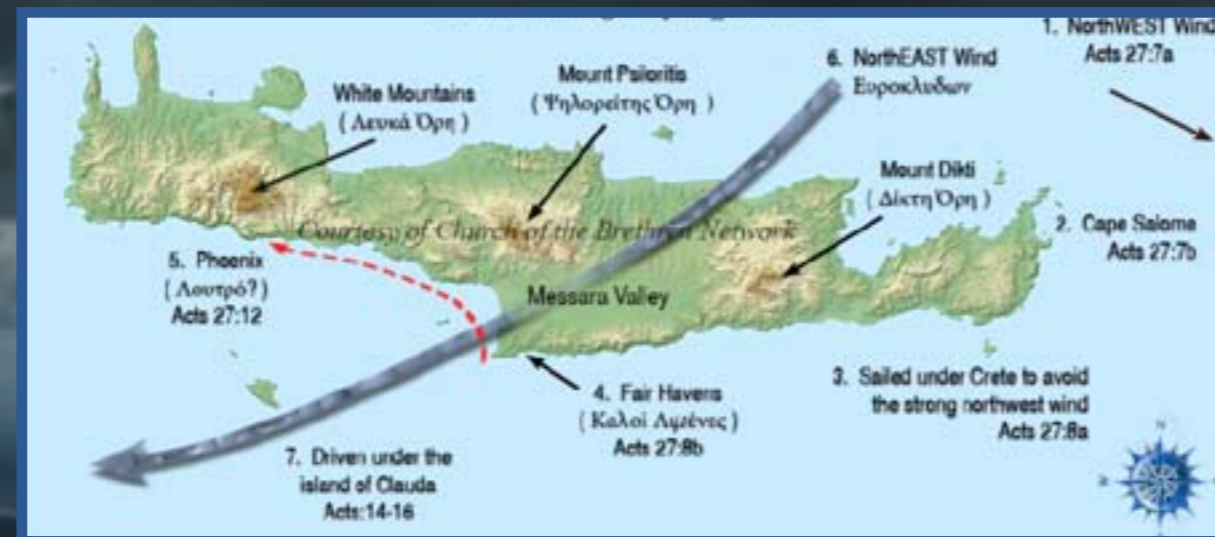
Fair Havens Harbor



The Storm Hits with a Vengeance!

Now when the south wind blew gently, supposing that they had obtained their purpose, they weighed anchor and sailed along Crete, close to the shore. But soon a **tempestuous wind**, called the northeaster, struck down from the land. And when the ship was caught and could not face the wind, we gave way to it and were driven along.

Acts 27:13-15



Attempts to Save the Ship

Running under the lee of a small island called Cauda, **we managed with difficulty** to secure the ship's dinghy. After hoisting it up, they used supports to undergird the ship. Then, fearing that they would run aground on the Syrtis, they lowered the sea anchor, and thus they were driven along. Since we were violently storm-tossed, they began the next day to jettison the cargo. And on the third day they threw the ship's tackle overboard with their own hands. When neither sun nor stars appeared for many days, and no small tempest lay on us, **all hope of our being saved was at last abandoned.**

Acts 27:16-20



Paul's Call to Take Heart

“Men, you should have listened to me and not have set sail from Crete and incurred this injury and loss. Yet now I urge you to **take heart**, for there will be no loss of life among you, but only of the ship. For this very night there stood before me an angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I worship, and he said, ‘Do not be afraid, Paul; you must stand before Caesar. And behold, **God has granted you all those who sail with you.**’ So **take heart**, men, for I have faith in God that it will be exactly as I have been told. But we must run aground on some island.”

Acts 27:21-26



Close to Land

When the fourteenth night had come, as we were being driven across the Adriatic Sea, about midnight the sailors suspected that they were nearing land. So they took a sounding and found twenty fathoms. A little farther on they took a sounding again and found fifteen fathoms. And fearing that we might run on the rocks, they let down **four anchors** from the stern and prayed for day to come.

Acts 27:27-32



Paul's Call to Stay Together

And as the sailors were seeking to escape from the ship, and had lowered the ship's boat into the sea under pretense of laying out anchors from the bow, Paul said to the centurion and the soldiers, **“Unless these men stay in the ship, you cannot be saved.”** Then the soldiers cut away the ropes of the ship's boat and let it go.

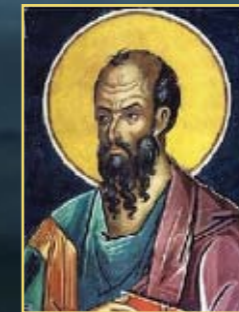
Acts 27:27-32



Paul's Call to Take Food

“Today is the fourteenth day that you have continued in suspense and without food, having taken nothing. Therefore I urge you to take some food. For it will give you strength, for **not a hair is to perish from the head of any of you.**” And when he had said these things, he **took bread**, and **giving thanks to God** in the presence of all he broke it and began to eat. Then they all were encouraged and ate some food themselves. (We were in all **276** persons in the ship.) And when they had eaten enough, they lightened the ship, throwing out the wheat into the sea.

Acts 27:33-38



Safe Landing

Now when it was day, they did not recognize the land, but they noticed a bay with a beach, on which they planned if possible to run the ship ashore. So they cast off the anchors and left them in the sea, at the same time loosening the ropes that tied the rudders. Then hoisting the foresail to the wind they made for the beach. But striking a reef, they ran the vessel aground. The bow stuck and remained immovable, and the stern was being broken up by the surf.

Acts 27:39-41



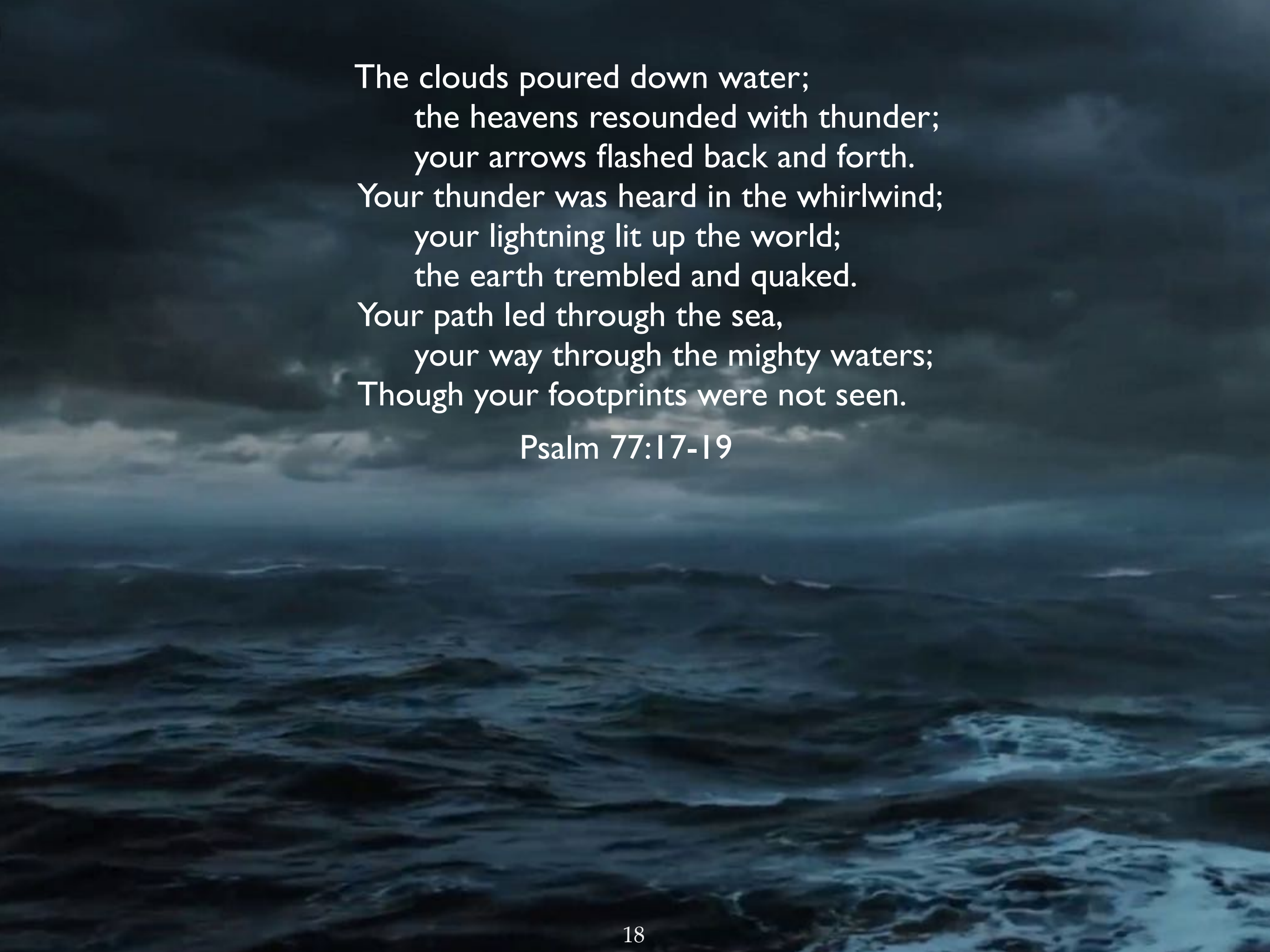
Centurion Saves the Prisoners

The soldiers' plan was to kill the prisoners, lest any should swim away and escape. But the centurion, wishing to save Paul, kept them from carrying out their plan. He ordered those who could swim to jump overboard first and make for the land, and the rest on planks or on pieces of the ship. And so it was that **all were brought safely to land.**

Acts 27:42-44







The clouds poured down water;
the heavens resounded with thunder;
your arrows flashed back and forth.
Your thunder was heard in the whirlwind;
your lightning lit up the world;
the earth trembled and quaked.
Your path led through the sea,
your way through the mighty waters;
Though your footprints were not seen.

Psalm 77:17-19