

# STORM SURVIVAL

## INTRODUCTION –

Have you ever been rocked by news or experienced something that shook you to your very core and dramatically changed your life? How do you survive these “storms of life”? How can you ensure that your house will still be standing when it’s all said and done. In the book of Acts there is a story where Paul went through a vicious storm. Inside that story are tucked valuable truths that will help us make it to the other side of our storms with our house still standing!

**\*MT 7:25 – “THE RAIN CAME DOWN, THE STREAMS ROSE, AND THE WINDS BLEW AND BEAT AGAINST THAT HOUSE; YET IT DID NOT FALL.”**

### 1. CLING UNTO HOPE

*\*Acts 27:18, 20 – “We took such a violent battering from the storm ... When neither sun nor stars appeared for many days and the storm continued raging, we finally **gave up hope** of being saved.”*

#### a. The Birthplace of FAITH

*\*Heb 11:1 – “Now **faith** is being sure of what we **hope** for...”*

#### b. An ANCHOR for the soul

*\*Heb 6:19 – “We have this **hope** as an **anchor for the soul**, firm and secure.”*

### 2. TURN LOOSE OF UNNECESSARY THINGS

*\*Acts 27:18-19 – “We took such a violent battering from the storm that the next day they began to **throw the cargo overboard**. On the third day, they **threw the ship’s tackle overboard**...”*

#### a. Things that AREN’T IMPORTANT

*\*Phil 3:8 – “What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have **lost all things**. I consider them **rubbish**, that I may gain Christ.”*

#### b. Things that HOLD US BACK

*\*Heb 12:1 – “...let us throw off everything that hinders (weights, K.J.V.) and the sin that so easily entangles...”*

#### c. SELF-trust

*\*2 Cor 1:8-9 – “For we were so utterly burdened **beyond our strength** that we despaired of life itself. Indeed, we felt that we had received the sentence of death. But that was to make us **rely not on ourselves but on God**...”*

### 3. HANG UNTO A WORD FROM GOD

*\*Acts 27:21-25 - 21After the men had gone a long time without food, Paul stood up before them and said: 22”...I urge you to keep up your courage, because not one of you will be lost; only the ship will be destroyed. 23Last night an angel of the God whose I am and whom I serve stood beside me 24and said, ‘Do not be afraid, Paul You must stand trial before Caesar; and God has graciously given you the lives of all who sail with you.’ 25So keep up your courage, men, for I have faith in God that it will happen just as he told me.”*

a. Get **YOUR RHEMA WORD**

b. Hang Unto **HIS PROMISE**

*\*Rom 4:18-21 – 18“Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed, and so believed ... 19Without weakening in his faith, he faced the fact that his body was as good as dead ... 20Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the Promise of God ... 21being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised.”*

*\*2 Cor 2:14 – “For all the promises of God find their yes in Him. That is why we utter our Amen to God for His glory.*

4. **CAN'T JUMP SHIP**

*\*Acts 27:30-32 – “30In an attempt to escape from the ship, the sailors let the lifeboat down into the sea, pretending they were going to lower some anchors from the bow. 31Then Paul said to the centurion and the soldiers, ‘Unless these men stay with the ship, you cannot be saved.’ 32So the soldiers cut the ropes that held the lifeboat and let it fall away.”*

a. **NOTHING** is lost on God

b. If you jump ship, all bets (promises) are off

c. We must cut away our **ESCAPE ROUTE**

5. **FEED ON THE BREAD OF LIFE**

*\*Acts 27:33-36 – “33Just before dawn Paul urged them all to eat. ‘For the last 14 days’, he said, you have been in constant suspense and have gone without food ... 34Now I urge you to take some food. You need it to survive. ... 35After he said this, he took some bread and gave thanks to God in front of them all. Then he broke it and began to eat. 36They were all encouraged and ate some food themselves.”*

a. **DAILY** Bread

*\*Mt 4:4 – “Jesus answered, ... ‘Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.”*

b. **FRESH** Manna

6. **LIVE IN GOD’S FAVOR**

*\*Acts 27:42-43 – “42The soldiers planned to kill the prisoners to prevent any of them from swimming away and escaping. 43But the centurion wanted to spare Paul’s life and kept them from carrying out their plan.”*

a. Being in a storm doesn’t mean that God is against you

*\*Rom 8:31 – “If God is for us, who can be against us?”*

b. Favor is Based Upon **GRACE**

**CONCLUSION:**

*\*Acts 27:43-44 – 43“He ordered those who could swim to jump overboard first and get to land. 44 The rest were to get there on planks or on pieces of the ship. In this way everyone reached land in safety.”*

