

Frapping – No, Not Starbucks

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Acts 27:15

Acts 27:1 - Paul has made his appeal to Caesar and is now being relocated to Rome.

Acts 27:2-8 – Luke records the journey on the first ship.

Acts 27:9 – The Day of Atonement passed (early October)

Acts 27:10-12 – Paul warns the others about the danger of sailing in winter and is ignored.

Acts 27:13-15 – Soon after departure, the ship was in a “northeaster” or Eurocydon.

Acts 27:15, 17 – “*were driven along*” same Greek word found in 2 Peter 1:21, “*For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.*”

“Frapping” is a nautical term. It means securely binding or tightening ropes or chains around a ship’s hull. It is typically done in rough weather to reinforce the structure and prevent it from breaking apart due to stress from heavy waves; essentially, it’s a way to brace the vessel by wrapping ropes around it for added support. (Undergirding, Strengthening, Supporting) Sometimes, our physical struggles mirror a spiritual fight. The last thing the enemy wanted was for Saul to make Rome anticipate the Lord’s use of him for the sake of the Gospel.

I. The Sailor’s Frapping

God could have saved them through any of the sailors’ actions, but in His Providence, He chose not to do so.

- A. **The sailors' easiest solution was to seek shelter near land (Acts 27:16)**
- B. **The men physically “frapped” the vessel to hold it together (Acts 27:17a).**
- C. **The mainsail or sea anchors were lowered (Acts 27:17b)**
- D. **The cargo was jettisoned (Acts 27:18)**
- E. **Threw ship’s tackling overboard (Acts 27:19)**

All Hope was Lost: Acts 27:20, *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.* Living by our own terms means losing hope in everything. Doing these things was necessary and prudent. However, our deliverance is not found in our power but in God’s.

II. The Apostle’s Frapping (Acts

- A. **The Call for Courage (Acts 27:21-26)**
 - 1. Take Heart (Acts 27:22)
 - 2. Trust the Word (Acts 27:23-25)
 - a) Know to whom you belong (Acts 27:23a)
 - b) Know the One you worship (Acts 27:23b)
 - c) Know your God-given purpose (Acts 27:24)
 - d) Know your God’s gracious provision (Acts 27:24b)
- B. **The Demand for Faith (Acts 27:27-32) 14 nights of violent storms**
 - 1. Stay in the Ship (Acts 27:31)
 - 2. Detach from human deliverance (Acts 27:32)
- C. **The Need for Bread (Acts 27:33-38) (Read 33-36)** (spiritually we need the bread of life)

III. The Lord’s Frapping (Acts 27:39-44)

Read the account (39-44) Make the application.

- A. **The work God began He will complete (27:24) (Philippians 1:6, And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.**
- B. **God supports us in the moment of need (Acts 27:17 & Hebrews 4:16)**
 - 1. **Supports (27:17)** “*Boētheia*” – any device that bears the weight of another thing.
 - 2. **Hebrews 4:16**, *Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.* [support or “*boetheia*”]
 - 3. **Psalms 46:1**, *God is our refuge and strength, a very present [proximity, omnipresent God] help in trouble.*