

# W O R D A T W O R K

## VOLUME LX NUMBER VI Walking through the Storms of Life I

What does the Bible say about a season like this? Hebrews 12:25-28 identifies such a time. This passage says, *“See that you do not refuse Him who speaks. For if they did not escape who refused Him who spoke on earth, much more shall we not escape if we turn away from Him who speaks from heaven, whose voice then shook the earth; but now He has promised, saying, ‘Yet once more I shake not only the earth, but also heaven.’ Now this, ‘Yet once more,’ indicates the removal of those things that are being shaken, as of things that are made, that the things which cannot be shaken may remain. Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may **serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear.**”* We are in this present peril because the fear of the Lord has been absent in our culture. Our nation continues to walk away from and even openly rebel against God! As representatives of Jesus Christ what should our response be? What will the church choose to do? The church has to repent for not accepting our status as kings and priests, ambassadors of the Most High and no longer expect those in the pulpit to complete our assignments.

As priests, we pray identificational repentance like Daniel did in Daniel 9:3-19. We invoke the covenant of Sure Mercy over the sins of our nation asking God to save us. Then we pray the anti-Christ God-haters and God-mockers into the full judgment of God where if they don’t repent we pray their removal. Isaiah 22:19 says, *“I will thrust you from your office and you will be pulled down from your station.”* It is time for the righteous to agree that these enemies of God be removed, cut off and cast away as tares that the full harvest may be released. May the angels of God be sent forth to bring that about now! May the faithful intercessors be greatly refreshed and strengthened to continue to receive prayer that will elevate and hasten God’s purposes.

Those of us who know God and walk in Sonship are assured of an inheritance and have a vital destiny in a season like this! Romans 8:29 states, *“For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.”* Our most crucial and productive season is upon us as this crisis unfolds. The enemy has unleashed multiple storms where turbulence abounds, but we are the key to restoring God’s rule! Ephesians 1:5-11 outlines the foundation of pursuing our destiny! Ephesians 1:5 declares, *“...having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will,...”* It’s time for God’s sons and daughters to stand up and speak up! Verses 10-13 declare our inheritance for this season. *“...That in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth—in Him. In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the*

*purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will, that we who first trusted in Christ should be to the praise of His glory. In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise...,*" God is very clear about assigning us a destiny. We know that we have an adversary who is a thief and a robber, a liar and a deceiver. He is the enemy of our God and His Family and his ways are devastation. He is intent on devouring. We are appointed to live for the praise of the Father's glory and be witnesses of the Living Christ! We are told to stand steadfast against the devil and to hold fast to God's promises.

Deuteronomy 18:15 says, *"The Lord your God will raise up for you a Prophet like me from your midst, from your brethren. Him you shall hear."* Jesus, our Mighty Savior and Victorious King is also called a prophet like Moses. Is there a pattern to how Moses ministered salvation to the children of Israel? Yes, there is! Moses ministered salvation by wielding the two-edged mercy sword. He saved by praying priestly prayers for mercy. The mercy prayers secured forgiveness. Then by judicial prayer Moses moved God's Hand to remove the tares! In Exodus 32 three thousand died for their rebellion but the rest of the nation was saved. In Numbers 16 Korah, Dathan, Abiram along with their families, plus 250 rebellious leaders died but Israel as a nation was spared. In the same chapter we read the account of complaints from the children of Israel at the death of their brethren and God's intent to consume them all. Moses and Aaron intercede and Aaron took a censer out among the people to save the congregation. In that account 14,700 died but the nation was saved! In Acts 12 of the New Testament we read of Herod killing James and jailing Peter. Through the prayers of the saints, mercy to the disciples meant the death of Herod, which no doubt saved Peter's life and the lives of other believers.

It is impossible to recall any time throughout our lives that parallels this present season. How do we as believers navigate these uncharted waters? For our preparation the mighty God, the Creator of the earth, seas and galaxies not only has given us a Compass, the Holy Spirit, but He recorded for us the Scripture whereby we navigate. Our Bible presents various kinds of storms that we will face and what we can do in each situation. Matthew 8:23-24 says, *"Now when He (Jesus) got into a boat, His disciples followed Him. And suddenly a great tempest arose on the sea, so that the boat was covered with the waves. But He was asleep."* In Mark 4 the parallel passages the disciples awakened Jesus and asked Him, *"Teacher, **Do you not care** that we are perishing?"* In a storm, the first thing Satan does is sow the seeds of doubt just to see if it will spring forth. Seeds of doubt, if received and attended to can result in anxiety, fear, thoughts of divine abandonment that rob faith. The enemy sows a lie into our relationship with God to destroy our faith and abort covenant victories! If we entertain doubts, we forfeit the faith to still the storm or walk across it in victory! God cared enough to sacrifice all for us! Let's honor Jesus' sacrifice by daring to command the storm to stop or walk across the top of it! The opposition from the enemy manifests in a storm or tempest, which is the Greek word **seismos**. A **seismos** on land is an earthquake but when it occurs at sea can be a tsunami that can fill our boat with water and kill us. This storm can be stilled or walked over the top of, as Peter did by faith. In this passage, Jesus stilled the **seismos** and the disciples said, *"Who is this that even the winds and seas obey Him?"*

Most of us are in the midst of current, personal storms or we are undergirding others who are. Fear, anxiety, lies and deception abound. It is hard not to be moved by viewing all the global drama. And most of us are experiencing a financial earthquake spawned by political decisions made to disproportionately confront the pandemic. Our governors decided to legislate 'shelter in place' orders crippling and in some places killing portions of local economy in many places. We have always quarantined the sick, but for the first time in history medical professionals counseled to quarantine all who were well. The result has been a financial earthquake that was man-made. The lessons we learn from Jesus can save us. Earthquakes and tempestuous storms respond to our faith. Speak to the storm, *"Peace be still?"* When Jesus encountered storms He spoke to and commanded them to be stilled and the storms obeyed! Speak to your job or

business! Speak to your personal storm as Jesus did! Matthew 8:24-25 says, *“And suddenly a great tempest arose on the sea, so that the boat was covered with the waves. But He was asleep. Then his disciples came to him and awoke him saying, Lord save us we’re perishing. But he said to them, why are you fearful? Oh! You of little faith. Then he arose and rebuked the winds and the sea and there was a great calm.”* Now the word for “rebuked” in the Greek is **epitimaō** and it means to censor or forbid. When Jesus rebuked the wind and the sea, He actually was saying, “That’s enough! Stop! And there was a great calm! The disciples had El Shaddai, the All-Sufficient One present on board. Jesus used this opportunity to train His team in storm management. In our hour may the church lean on the Word, our own Navigational Manual and rely on the Holy Spirit within to guide us through the current maze of storms! May God pour out His resurrection life and divine favor to restore. God is the Master Restorer of what is stolen and often resurrects what prematurely ends!

What I really find exciting about the Greek word **seismos** is that it has a practical application. By using the word **seismos**, the narrative of Jesus stilling the storm indicates that even an earthquake can be stilled. The immutable truth that faith changes circumstances has given me faith to pray a hedge of protection around about my home. I believe it will stand even in an 8.0 earthquake! I believe it will stand even if every other house in the neighborhood collapses. If you lived in earthquake territory like I do, you would get very excited about being able to keep your house standing in the face of such devastating disaster and loss. Speaking to a storm may seem unusual, but Jesus did it and He exhorted us to do it also. Let’s be reminded that the *“wise man built his house on the rock!”* And recall the Scripture that says, *“A wise woman builds her house. A foolish woman tears it down with hands.”* Every redemptive promise that we have seeded our heart with equips us for seasons such as this!

The Apostle Paul experienced a **seismos** storm in Acts 16. Paul and Silas were imprisoned and while they were singing praises, a **seismos** shook the prison to its very foundations. *“But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone’s chains were loosed. And the keeper of the prison, awaking from sleep and seeing the prison doors open, supposing the prisoners had fled, drew his sword and was about to kill himself. But Paul called with a loud voice, saying, ‘Do yourself no harm, for we are all here.’ Then he called for a light, ran in, and fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. And he brought them out and said, ‘Sirs, what must I do to be saved?’ So they said, ‘Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household. Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. And he took them the same hour of the night and washed their stripes. And immediately he and all his family were baptized. Now when he had brought them into his house, he set food before them; and he rejoiced, having believed in God with all his household.”* Here is a redemptive storm, a storm that abounded to the salvation of many.

The Apostle Paul, an overcomer to the max, was no stranger to life’s storms. He had a destiny that the Holy Spirit revealed. And we, like Paul have a Spirit-ordained destiny. He had to testify before Gentiles, kings and the children of Israel! Paul was an expert in dealing with challenges. One of Paul’s painful tests came through the church. In Acts 21 Agabus prophesied chains and imprisonment were waiting for him at Jerusalem. The church tried to persuade Paul to run from his destiny toward safety because of persecution. In Acts:21-13 Paul said, *“What do you mean by weeping and breaking my heart? For I am ready not only to be bound, but also to die at Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus.”* Can we say that? Are we ready for persecution? While pressing toward his destiny, Paul encountered different storms as the enemy made multiple attempts to abort what God had planned. We should study what he faced as a preparation to be victorious, to rule and reign with Christ in His eternal Kingdom. Observing Paul will help us deal with our personal hardships.

Paul was a veteran in weathering storms. His 'biography' in 2 Corinthians 11 attests to that. This passage says *"...in labors more abundant, in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequently, in deaths often. From the Jews five times I received forty stripes minus one. Three times I was beaten with rods; once I was stoned; three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I have been in the deep; in journeys often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils of my own countrymen, in perils of the Gentiles, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren; in weariness and toil, in sleeplessness often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness—besides the other things, what comes upon me daily: my deep concern for all the churches."* How many of us can describe a list of storm-challenges that look like Paul's. Acts 27 is a key chapter concerning the parade of storms Paul faced as a faith champion. In this chapter he is on a strategic journey, and we have the benefit of his experiences to help train us in storm-navigation.

In Acts 27, Paul was a prisoner under the oversight of a Roman centurion who was escorting prisoners to Rome. This was a prophetic journey. His destination would be a place he would write most of the Epistles (while under house arrest or literally) imprisoned and eventually be martyred. This chapter of the voyage toward Rome gives us a picture of how the world responds to storms. Paul battled against man's wisdom. Paul and others aboard wrestled repeatedly through different degrees of devastating storms. Remember, he was headed to Rome toward his ultimate destiny. Paul knew, that he knew, that he knew that his destiny was secure. But what kind of hardships would he and the rest on board endure due to human reasoning and the motives and priorities dictated by world, including those in power. It is always wise to seek the Lord. The wisdom of God always supersedes the wisdom of men. 1 Corinthians 3:19 says, *"For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, 'He catches the wise in their own craftiness.'"* Have we in America been lured into drawing conclusions and solutions based on how something looks or what the experts have to say? Saints, we have our Holy Spirit Compass available to us and He is speaking through all the provision contained in His Word. Worldly wisdom lies. Worldly wisdom is incomplete or could be either grossly inadequate or an outright lie! And when it is hatched by the evil one, we can be sure it is a lie!

Paul had more than one prophetic word for those on board. In Acts 27:9-10 Paul said, *"Men, I perceive that this voyage will end with disaster and much loss, not only of the cargo and ship, but also our lives."* God warned him of the devil's plan to kill everyone on board. What unfolds are 5 kinds of human wisdom that warred against the prophetic Word received by Paul. Paul's cautionary words were met with attempts to point people away from Godly counsel in order to steal, kill and destroy! Acts 27:11-13 say, *"Nevertheless the centurion was more persuaded by the helmsman and the owner of the ship than by the things spoken by Paul. And because the harbor was not suitable to winter in, the majority advised to set sail from there also, if by any means they could reach Phoenix, a harbor of Crete opening toward the southwest and northwest, and winter there. When the south wind blew softly, supposing that they had obtained their desire, putting out to sea, they sailed close by Crete."* The helmsman represents **professional wisdom**, the man with the training and expertise. Professional experts are often very impressive but their worldly knowledge and human understanding can get us killed if God says don't go. When God is at work, there is higher wisdom we need to listen to and heed! Beware of professional wisdom! Let's consider what other type of natural motivation could be ascribed to the owner of the ship. The builder of the Titanic swore that it was unsinkable. He had poured his resources into the construction of the ship and was convinced it was indestructible. The input of the owner of the vessel carried weight, and it carried the **profit motivation** which can cloud good judgment! Beware the promise of great reward! The next form of wisdom is that of looking at the **circumstances**. In verse 12 a decision was made because the harbor was determined to be *"not suitable"* for winter. No one liked the austere accommodations! Were they better than death? As the voyage proceeded they realized that they rejected poor conditions for those that were much worse, when God had

warned, 'don't go.' The next manifestation of man's wisdom was yielding to what the majority advised! Beware of basing decisions upon what the **majority decides**. It could go against God. If it does, abandon ship! Finally, "*supposing they had obtained their desire*" again implied giving in to **circumstances**. Visibly good circumstances are no reason to disregard God's warning. As believers we are cautioned not to look to the things that are seen but to the things that are not seen. When we see human wisdom, we should question it, seek God and commit to walking out God's counsel and His ways wherever it may take us!

Those on board had a Word of the Lord in the form of a sober warning which said, "Don't sail!" It was a good word too. Verse 12 reveals, "*And because the harbor was not suitable to winter in...*" Many times we as believers might be tempted to think, 'I really don't like where we are at the moment.' But discomfort is not a good reason to set sail. Jumping out of a frying pan and into the fire is never a good idea and not a good reason to set sail. The next temptation was what the majority advised. Whenever the majority votes, there is always pressure to follow through. One unique aspect of the formation of America's original democracy was the assumption that God was always honored and kept front and center. Our Founding Fathers knew God's Presence was the key. When God is removed from the picture and His voice is not honored, it can be democracy run amuck. Satan counts on pressure working to stop God's plan. If we had a choice between a democracy and the wisdom of the Spirit of God, which would we choose? In many of our churches today there is a giant warfare between democracy and scriptural theocracy flowing through team ministry. I just can't resist throwing in a plug for theocracy. In Paul's journey by sea to Rome, which was ordained by God, where did democracy lead them? It led them into damage, disaster and loss! In Acts 27 it goes on to say, "*And because the harbor was not suitable to winter in, the majority advised to set sail from there also, if by any means they could reach Phoenix, a harbor of Crete opening toward the southwest and northwest, and winter there. When the south wind blew softly, supposing that they had obtained their desire, putting out to sea, they sailed close by Crete. But not long after, a tempestuous head wind arose, called Euroclydon.*" The word for tempestuous is **too-fo-nik-os** which means typhoon. A typhoon in the southern hemisphere is a hurricane north of the equator. This passage goes on to say, "*So when the ship was caught, and could not head into the wind, we let her drive. And running under the shelter of an island called Clauda, we secured the skiff with difficulty. When they had taken it on board, they used cables to undergird the ship; and fearing lest they should run aground on the Syrtis Sands, they struck sail and so were driven. And because we were exceedingly tempest-tossed, the next day they lightened the ship.*"

Well into the voyage in Acts 27 Paul spoke his other recorded prophetic word to those on board. "*...Paul implored them all to take food saying, 'Today is the fourteenth day you have waited and continued without food, and eaten nothing. Therefore I urge you to take nourishment, for this is for your survival, since not a hair will fall from the head of any of you.'* And when he had said these things, he took bread and gave thanks to God in the presence of them all; and when he had broken it he began to eat. Then they were all encouraged, and also took food themselves. And in all we were two hundred and seventy-six persons on the ship. So when they had eaten enough, they lightened the ship and threw out the wheat into the sea." Is it likely that Paul's shipmates were likely to ignore or resist him this time? Paul's credibility increased on this journey!

In November of 2013 there was a catastrophic event in Southeast Asia called Typhoon Haiyon. Two prophetic pastors from Tacloban, Phillipines tried to gather regional church leaders prior to that as their hearts felt stirred toward repentance. God attempted to warn prophetically that judgment was coming. Unlike the city of Nineveh, the number responding to come together for repentance was minimal and a typhoon was the result. 2 months after this typhoon, my wife was invited to a meeting hosted by ministry friends of ours. The speaker was one of the two Philippino pastors who had oversight of a number of

churches in Southeast Asia, with their own church being in Tacloban. This city took the direct hit. Pastor Emie was the speaker at this particular meeting and she happened to be the prophetess who initiated the plea for prayer. Various slides were shown that depicted calamitous scenes throughout the region. Out of this tragedy came some amazing testimonies. In several slides, Pastor Emie pointed to a single house still standing among complete rubble saying, 'This is our elder's home.' In another slide, 'That home is ours.' In a third, the scene was a large public building practically fully collapsed with only a few units standing. One of those spaces was their church offices. The destruction was overwhelming through the region! What a picture of God's prophets and saints honoring and obeying the King of Kings. The reward was that God kept their home! Our Mighty Protector sheltered what was theirs and they became a sanctuary for their community and beyond. Obedience pays great rewards. Heeding the counsel of God's ambassadors will save a world of hurt. Isaiah 43:1-3a says, *"But now, thus says the Lord, who created you, O Jacob, And He who formed you, O Israel: 'Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by your name; You are Mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; And through the rivers, they shall not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned, Nor shall the flame scorch you. For I am the Lord your God, The Holy One of Israel, Your Savior.'"*

Faith and obedience play crucial roles in navigating the storms of life. Finding a secure place of shelter is essential in finding safety and stability in times of storm. That secure place needs to develop on the **inside** of us where **the Holy Spirit dwells**. Sometimes it is a geographic location, but often times it is that secure, stable, powerful place within. *"He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High shall remain stable and fixed under the shadow of the Almighty Whose power no foe can withstand."* Ps 91:1 AMPC As we quiet ourselves and listen to the Spirit, God wants us to safely arrive at our spiritual destination/destiny. God has given us the authority to do so. Let's use it by direction of the Holy Spirit! The application for us is this: God is raising up spiritual places of shelter from one end of this nation to the other and frequently they are quite small. But they are places of shelter for the different kinds of storms that may well hit America, particularly when there is both a health and an economic component. If we are in that place of shelter, divine security unfolds. There's a divine flow of God's protective grace and it becomes a place of wisdom that releases divine counsel and blessing. The truth is, that this very storm may be our opportunity to go straight for our ministry and calling and watch God's plan accelerate! Catching a divine and sovereign flow of provision often results. That's a word I have by the Spirit of the Lord. I want to tell you, I believe there is a place of ministry like that for each of us in the days ahead. Verse 21 goes on to say, *"But after long abstinence from food, then Paul stood in the midst of them and said, 'Men, you should have listened to me, and not have sailed from Crete and incurred this disaster and loss.'"* Listening to the Spirit will avoid loss!

On September 11, 1992 Hurricane Iniki directly hit Kauai. This was the worst storm ever to hit the Hawaiian Island chain. It was a category 4 hurricane with 145 mph winds. The devastation was monumental. A pastor friend of mine who endured the storm was asking the Lord for help and guidance. "God, show me how to stop future, devastating storms." The Lord spoke Isaiah 27:1 to him which says, *"In that day the Lord with His severe sword, great and strong, Will punish Leviathan the fleeing serpent, Leviathan that twisted serpent; And He will slay the reptile that is in the sea."* He was now equipped to pray with the weapon of a Spirit-breathed rhema! Since that day to this, many storms have been forecast for Hawaii but Isaiah 27:1 in the mouth of Pastor John has killed every one. That power and peace is found in the Holy Spirit. We should always be on the lookout for the Spirit-breathed rhema that God wants to arm us with!

How do we get through a storm? What is our personal strategy for weathering future storms? Are we able to find God's place of shelter and ride storms out victoriously? Sometimes the place of shelter is a Scripture. Human wisdom leads to great loss. Choosing God's Divine wisdom along with the anointing of the Holy Spirit will lead us to life and destiny. When the disciples faced the death of Christ, sorrow and loss ruled

the night, but resurrection came in the morning. God still raises the dead! We have all suffered loss of one kind or another. Perhaps that loss is in the form of cancelled graduations, aborted weddings, contracts lost, jobs that dried up, closed or crippled businesses, and numerous missed opportunities big and small. Our God is the Repairer of the Breach and the Restorer of paths to dwell in and He can be trusted to revive and bring to life our losses. He is a trustworthy Father! Psalm 98:3 is a promise worth remembering. *“He has remembered His mercy and His faithfulness to the house of Israel; All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.”* In the midst of global upheaval, formulas crafted through human reasoning don’t work. The Person of the Holy Spirit does. Storms create discomfort and pain for a season. The Holy Spirit provides guidance through the storm.

Isaiah 26:1-14 says, *“In that day this song will be sung in the land of Judah: ‘We have a strong city; God will appoint salvation for walls and bulwarks. Open the gates, That the righteous nation which keeps the truth may enter in. You will keep him in perfect peace, Whose mind is stayed on You, Because he trusts in You. Trust in the LORD forever, For in YAH, the LORD, is everlasting strength. For He brings down those who dwell on high, The lofty city; He lays it low, He lays it low to the ground, He brings it down to the dust. The foot shall tread it down—The feet of the poor And the steps of the needy.’ The way of the just is uprightness; O Most Upright, You weigh the path of the just. Yes, in the way of Your judgments, O LORD, we have waited for You; The desire of our soul is for Your name And for the remembrance of You. With my soul I have desired You in the night, Yes, by my spirit within me I will seek You early; For when Your judgments are in the earth, The inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness. Let grace be shown to the wicked, Yet he will not learn righteousness; In the land of uprightness he will deal unjustly, And will not behold the majesty of the LORD. LORD, when Your hand is lifted up, they will not see But they will see and be ashamed For their envy of people; Yes, the fire of Your enemies shall devour them. LORD, You will establish peace for us, For You have also done all our works in us. O LORD our God, masters besides You Have had dominion over us; But by You only we make mention of Your name. They are dead, they will not live; They are deceased, they will not rise. Therefore You have punished and destroyed them, And made all their memory to perish.”* We have had a historically strong nation. Other pilgrims have come from many other nations across the globe for a taste of living in democracy. It has been such because of the fact that a righteous nation that keeps truth is one that God has established. Saints, we must press through and keep our minds stayed upon the Lord. There is perfect peace in that place. God is our Everlasting Strength and He will raise up a righteous standard as we pray and stand unrelenting in the storm! God’s Hand is lifted high as His people pray!

When we are in God’s place of peace and safety, a shelter ordained by Him, grace flows for us. While the storm may be raging outside, inside is a place of healing and restoration for us. When we face a serious judgment, then what do we do? Verse 20-21 tells us, *“Come my people enter your chambers. Shut your doors behind you; Hide yourself, as it were, for a little moment, Until the indignation is past. For behold, the Lord comes out of His place To punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity; The earth will also disclose her blood, And will no more cover her slain.”* In a season of judgment, God always provides a safety and a haven for His people. God Himself is always a refuge in the midst of any storm! Will we have the spiritual awareness and depth of relationship to find His place of shelter and abide there? Yes, it is our destiny!

The Lord God Almighty is our Compass, our Rudder, our Anchor, our Captain, our Haven and our Shelter and He will never leave us adrift. Psalm 107:29-30 says, *“He calms the storm, So that its waves are still. Then they are glad because they are quiet; So He guides them to their desired haven.”* May this be our testimony walking through this pandemic and all of the accompanying fallout! For this we know, saints, our *“God will never leave us nor forsake us.”*

## Interactive Challenge:

We challenge you during the month of June to keep a Captain's log of your insights and impressions as God opens His Word to you. As an exercise, frequently read back over Acts 27 and include the account of the narrative of Paul on the island of Malta recorded in Acts 28. Meditate on what God speaks to you. Glean personal insights from Paul's journey and draw from your own experiences as well. Let the Captain of your soul teach you about storms and about His plan to overcome. Let Him show you how to weather the storm, and quiet it, or how to walk across it. As the Lord reveals His truth to you we welcome you to drop us a note and share with us!

*There is no storm that I will face  
That will unhinge me from God's grace.  
I have my compass set upon  
The Holy One I'm leaning on.  
His Voice and Word are leading me,  
Toward my eternal destiny!*

*By j. houghton*