



DGM Message Summary: Hold On To What's Left

Takeaway:

Do not bet against God or His servants. Paul's tumultuous boat ride teaches us that one way God shows His strength through His servants is by carrying them through a storm. Because once they make it through, God gets the glory and everyone else sees how when God is for His child, no one can stop His child.

Scriptural References:

- Acts 27:1
 - Paul was an anomaly prisoner at this time...Jewish and a Roman. This gave him a certain level of protection that not many citizens in those days had. And he was able to use his Roman citizenship to appeal to Caesar about his case.
- Acts 27:2-9
 - The boat ride:
 - Sailing was dangerous. But the guards wouldn't listen to Paul's advice about the tumultuous waters and weather conditions, ahead...they didn't listen to his prophecy of perceiving things weren't going to go well.
 - Paul was a preacher...he knew more than the text. So, he chose to be careful about what God said when it was just a hunch.
 - But when you walk with God, there are times you know things you just can't explain.
 - Paul was useful in life and had a relationship with God that informed every area.
- Acts 27:11
 - Paul lived the message he preached.
 - The centurion was more influenced by what the others on board had to say—banker, lawyer, and doctor—than God (through Paul)_
 - People on this journey would rather take advice from people who would tell them what they wanted to hear, than from one of God's chosen.
 - Instead of listening to Paul, they left a difficult place for an impossible place.
 - Don't select something fatal to avoid something hard.
 - What's wrong is still wrong, even if everybody agrees.
 - Don't bet against God or His servant.

- Acts 27:13
 - When we defy God's Word, it looks like everything's working out for a while.
 - But two things can't be hidden forever: a lie and the truth.
 - Not long after, the truth came out.
- Acts 27:14-24
 - A headwind came and the guards could not drive themselves...they were in a helpless situation, taken to places they didn't want to go and kept there longer than they wanted to stay.
 - Finally they found shelter on an island, with difficulty. They went with Plan B just in case, but even Plan B was difficult...
 - Once you ignore God, you've got a difficult road to take.
 - When you live life saying, *God save me but I'm not going to listen!*, you'll end up in a difficult situation.
 - They went in the wrong direction so long and so quickly, yet they couldn't steer out of it quickly. So, they had to make sacrifices they shouldn't have had to, if they'd have just listened to wisdom. The next day, they lightened the ship.
 - The lesson here is that 90% of our troubles, God warns us about. If God told you not to, don't!