

# A Tale of Two Cities: Part 2

Acts 18:23–21:16

## ▶ Before we begin

1. Describe an instance when you had to go through a storm, a flood, a bushfire or like natural disaster. How did you feel at the time?

## ▶ Saved from the sea

From last time, we saw Paul had no choice but to appeal to Caesar. He knew that had he been sent to Jerusalem he would be ambushed and killed (25:3). However, appealing to Caesar means going to Rome.

Paul had Rome in his mind before (Acts 19:21; Romans 1:15), but he is now going there not in a way he has expected.

Read 27:1–28:10.

2. Paul was surprisingly calm and confident throughout this ordeal. From the passage, what factors drove his confidence?
3. In what ways do we see God's sovereignty and power in this journey? How were God's plans for Paul fulfilled?
4. How can these events be an encouragement to us?

## ▶ With all boldness and without hindrance

Read 28:17–31.

5. How does Paul's arrival in Rome fit into the plan back in 1:8? Recall the place of Rome in the civilised (and Gentile) world at the time.
6. How was Paul's approach in proclaiming Jesus similar to the one he used in his earlier journeys?
7. Again, how was the people's response similar?
8. 28:26–27 is a quote from Isaiah 6:9–10. In what ways is this quote descriptive of what happened throughout Acts?
9. How do we help each other in imitating Paul, who taught Christ "with all boldness and without hindrance" (28:31)?