

Kids' Chronicle

THURSDAY, June 24, 1993

VOLUME II, ISSUE NO. 12

BY JOE SARNICOLA

Paul sails for Rome

After appearing before Governor Festus in court, Paul was granted permission to appeal his case to Caesar in Rome. Paul had been arrested by the Jewish officials for preaching the Gospel to the Gentiles, but because he was also a Roman citizen, he had a right to trial in a Roman court.

Paul and several prisoners boarded a ship that would sail to Rome with guards as well as the sailors.

Autumn winds on the open sea created frequent storms that tossed the boat as if it were a toy. Paul tried to warn the guards and sailors.

"This is going to be a hazardous journey," he said. "We may lose most of our supplies and the ship, and even our own lives are in danger."

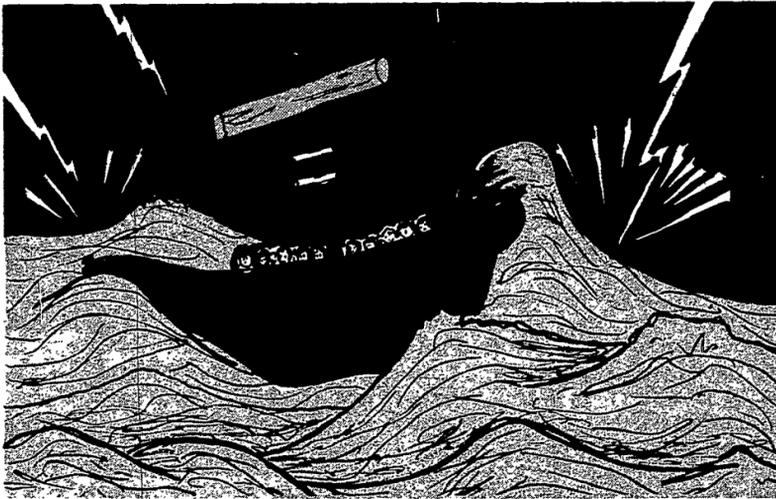
"Nonsense," said the ship's captain. "We will sail ahead and spend the winter in Phoenix on the island of Crete. That will be almost the halfway point."

The ship sailed for two weeks through mostly calm weather. But as Crete came into view, the sky darkened and a wind of hurricane force, called the Northeaster, blew ferociously toward the ship.

To avoid the ship being capsized, the crew threw most of the supplies overboard. They tied the lifeboats with extra ropes so that they would not be torn off by the wind.

The ship was shrouded in total darkness, without sight of the sun or any stars, as the storm raged for three days. With the supplies overboard, the men had no food for that whole time.

Paul stood up to speak to the



Illustrations by Kathy Walsh

frightened sailors and prisoners.

"Good men, do not be afraid. An angel of the God I serve visited me last night. He told me the ship will be destroyed, but not one life will be lost. We will be shipwrecked on a nearby island."

For ten more days the ship was blown across the Adriatic Sea as the storm weakened. At midnight a few sailors tried to escape in one of the lifeboats.

When Paul learned of this, he told the captain, "Unless these men stay on the ship, I cannot guarantee anyone's safety." The sailors cut the ropes to all of the lifeboats and let them fall into the sea.

"We have eaten very little for a long time," Paul continued. "Let us eat whatever food we can find."

Paul prayed and gave thanks in the presence of all the men. After they had all eaten, the men threw the remaining supplies overboard. They would not be needed any more.

Almost immediately, the ship crashed into a submerged rock and was completely destroyed. But every guard, sailor, and prisoner reached land safely by clinging to pieces of the ship and drifting with the waves.

The natives of the island they washed up on were friendly and tried to help the men.

Everyone worked together to build a fire. As Paul gathered a pile of branches, a snake bit his hand. He shook off the snake and threw the wood on the fire. The islanders expected Paul to fall down dead, because the snake's bite was deadly.

Not only did the snake's bite have no effect on Paul, but he proceeded to heal all of the sick people on the island in the name of Jesus.

Three months later a ship rescued all the shipwrecked men and brought them to Rome. Paul said to all the Jews there, "God's salvation has been sent to the Gentiles and they will believe."

Paul remained in Rome for two years and preached freely to both Jews and Gentiles.

Read more about it: Acts 27 & 28

Q & A

Q: Who told Paul the ship would be destroyed, but all the men saved?

Q: Paul preached the Gospel to the Gentiles. Why is that so important to us today?

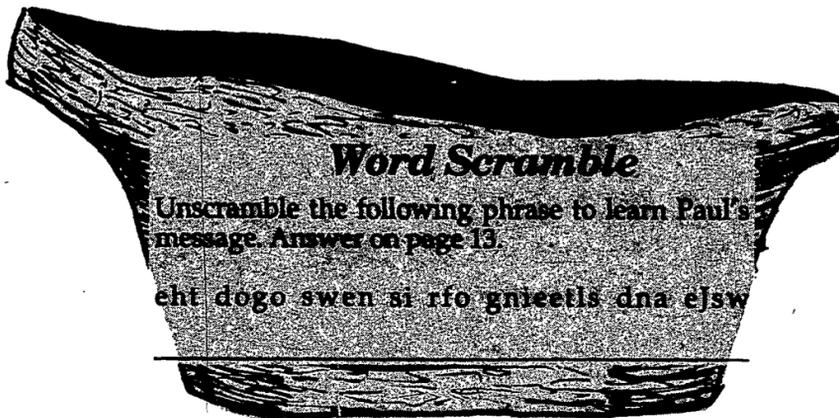
Bible Trivia

Which Gospel writer wrote the Book of Acts?

Send answers to: Catholic Courier Bible Trivia, 1150 Buffalo Road, Rochester, N.Y. 14624. Please include your name, address and school name with your entry.

All entries must be received by July 15, 1993. A winner will be selected at random from all the correct entries submitted. The winner will be notified by mail and receive a gift.

Last month's winner was Ben Cook, a sixth-grade student in O'Fallon, Mo., who correctly identified Matthias as the man chosen by the disciples to take the place of Judas.



Word Scramble

Unscramble the following phrase to learn Paul's message. Answer on page 13.

eht dogo swen si rfo gneetlis dna ejsw

The Bible Times

Rome — 55 AD

A Roman Jew named Paul of Tarsus was recently rescued from a small island after being shipwrecked along with several other prisoners and a company of sailors and guards.

Several of the other survivors described Paul as a hero for his bravery during a hurricane that led to the wrecking of the ship.

The captain of the ship claimed Paul helped to keep the men calm, even when a few sailors tried to secretly abandon ship.

Paul reportedly said an angel had told him no one on board would be harmed.

The ship was smashed against the rocks and the men were forced to hold on to pieces of the ship to keep them afloat until they were washed upon the island.

Several sailors and island residents also testified that Paul was bitten by a poisonous snake, yet remained unharmed.

Some witnesses claim Paul was unharmed because he was a man of God, others said it was because he was not allergic to the snake.

Paul said he will be staying in Rome now that all charges against him have been dropped.

Talking to God

Dear God,

Give me the faith of Paul, to be able to trust in you even when I am afraid.

"I, the Lord, have called you in righteousness; I will take hold of your hand.

Isaiah 42:6

King Solomon's Wisdom



Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and your plans will succeed. When your ways are pleasing to the Lord, he makes even your enemies live at peace with you.

Proverbs 16:3-7

Our Kids' Chronicle is sponsored in part by the following Catholic High Schools

THE AQUINAS INSTITUTE
A Tradition of Excellence
(716) 254-2020
1127 Dewey Ave., Rochester 14613

BISHOP KEARNEY HIGH SCHOOL
"An Education For Life."
342-4000
125 Kings Hwy. S. Rochester, 14617

DeSales Regional High School
In our 80th year of providing quality Catholic Education to young adults in the Finger Lakes.
315-789-5111
90 Putney Street, Geneva, 14456

MCQUAID HIGH JESUIT SCHOOL
Designated as an Exemplary School by the U.S. Dept. of Education
1800 S. Clinton Ave., Roch. 14618
(716) 473-1130

NAZARETH SCHOOLS
The Hall—The Academy
A Tradition You Can Trust
458-8583
458-3786

Mercy
Educating Today's Young Women for Tomorrow's World
Our Lady of Mercy H.S.
1437 Blossom Rd., Roch. 14610
288-7120