

IT WILL HAPPEN

DON'T STOP, PART 2

Pastor Ken Ritz * June 21, 2015 * New Life Vineyard Church

You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has promised.

Heb 10:36-37

ACTS 27

Much time had been lost, and sailing had already become dangerous because by now it was after the Day of Atonement. So Paul warned them, "Men, I can see that our voyage is going to be disastrous and bring great loss to ship and cargo, and to our own lives also." But the centurion, instead of listening to what Paul said, followed the advice of the pilot and of the owner of the ship.

Acts 27:9-11

- I have to make a decision: Will I steer by my senses, or will I steer by the Spirit?
- Outcome is God's responsibility, Obedience is mine.

When a gentle south wind began to blow, they saw their opportunity... Before very long, a wind of hurricane force, called the Northeaster, swept down from the island. The ship was caught by the storm and could not head into the wind; so we gave way to it and were driven along. Acts 27:13-15

- Sometimes when I ignore God's warnings, it looks good and it feels like I'm making progress, but even the progress I think I'm making will ultimately lead to disaster.

What good is it for you to gain the whole world, yet forfeit your soul? Mark 8:36-37

... Because they were afraid they would run aground on the sandbars of Syrtis, they lowered the sea anchor and let the ship be driven along. Acts 27:16-17

- Am I being "driven along" because I ignored God's warnings?

... the next day they began to throw the cargo overboard. On the third day, they threw the ship's tackle overboard with their own hands. When neither sun nor stars appeared for many days and the storm continued raging, we finally gave up all hope of being saved. After they had gone a long time without food, Paul stood up before them and said: "Men, you should have taken my advice not to sail from Crete; then you would have spared yourselves this damage and loss. But now I urge you to keep up your courage, because not one of you will be lost; only the ship will be destroyed.

Acts 27:18-22

- Sometimes our hope is in "Our Plan" for how we want to get where we think God wants to take us. But if your hope is in your plan, then when your plan is interrupted, your faith fails.

"So keep up your courage, for I have faith in God that it will happen just as he told me."

Acts 27:23-25

- It will happen. God's purpose in my life will be fulfilled.

"Nevertheless, we must run aground on some island."

...But the ship struck a sandbar and ran aground.

...But the centurion wanted to spare Paul's life and kept them from carrying out their plan. He ordered those who could swim to jump overboard first and get to land. The rest were to get there on planks or on other pieces of the ship. In this way everyone reached land safely.

Acts 27:26, 41-44

...he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

Philippians 1:6

- God finishes what he starts. God is the one who started the work in my life, and he will carry it on to completion.

**All scriptures from TNIV unless otherwise noted*