

Acts 28:1-10

God's Miracle Man on Malta

Unique Apostolic Miracles: A Foundational Part of the NT Church

Paul's Vexing Voyage to Rome 27:1-28:10

Phase 1: Before the Shipwreck 27:1-26

Phase 2: The Shipwreck 27:27-44

Phase 3: God's Miracle Man on Malta 28:1-10

Phase 4: Rome Sweet Rome 28:11-31

28 Chapters of Acts = "Jesus Is Alive As Head Of His Bride"

The Apostle Paul: God's Man on Malta 28:1-10

Struck by a Serpent but Saved, Paul Walks Away from a Two-Step Snake v1-6

Taking the LONG Way to Rome: Late October 59AD

Rainy and cold, the friendly natives have built a fire for their new 276 friends

Nobody in the Church is "Too Important" to Be a Servant

Paul was an Apostle (a spiritual Five Star General) but he didn't mind helping with the chores and getting his hands dirty. However here, one of them was bitten by a deadly snake. The friendly but superstitious locals assumed Paul must have been guilty of some great sin/crime and thus deserved this ironic fate: saved through the shipwreck only to be killed on the beach...because they knew this kind of snake kills and kills fast.

The Conventional Knowledge Isn't Always Right

Including in Regard to Issues Related to Science and Scripture!

But after they had waited a long time and had seen nothing unusual happen to him, they changed their minds and began to say that he was a god.

BTW: Mark 16:9-20 does not describe "snake handling" as a church ritual/worship activity, but has in view unique, foundational Apostolic miracles like this one.

The Final Foundational Sign Miracles Recorded in the NT v7-10

The Healing of Publius' Father Was a Foundational Church Age Miracle Designed to Confirm the MESSAGE (Gospel) and the TEACHING (Grace) of the Apostles v7-9

- ✓ Such miracles really happened, but they were unique and purpose-driven and were never presumed upon or demanded
- ✓ These kinds of Apostolic miracles were always 100% successful
- ✓ There are no additional miracles of this kind recorded in the New Testament and Paul's latter writings imply they were no longer functioning (2 Timothy 4:20)

Paul's Ministry on Malta Sparked Gratitude from Many on That Island v10

The presence of Paul, Luke and Aristarchus for over three months (late October 59 AD to early February 60 AD according to Hoehner's chronology) was a blessing not a blight

Acts 28:1-10 God's Miracle Man on Malta

Unique Apostolic Miracles: A Foundational Part of the NT Church

Many of the events recorded in the Book of Acts are descriptive not prescriptive. This is true because the book describes a UNIQUE period and UNIQUE persons. The Apostles had a UNIQUE foundational place in Church History-which cannot be reproduced, but...
...the ULTIMATE Apostolic miracle was the production of the New Testament books!

Ultimately the Cornerstone of the Foundation of the Church is our Lord Jesus Christ:

Who He Is/What He Did as "The Christ, the Son of the Living God"

Closely Associated with the Cornerstone and an Integral Part of the Foundation:

The Words/Works of the Apostles...Climaxing in the Books of the New Testament
The "signs of an Apostle" was given to these men during the first generation of the C-Church (Ephesians 2:20; 2 Corinthians 12:12) to confirm their message/teaching.

A Foundation (The 1st Generation Apostolic C-Church) is Laid One Time...

...The Superstructure Upon That Foundation Continues to be Constructed:

We do not have to be in Haiti, Mexico, Jordan, China or Guatemala to be a on a mission for our Savior. EACH ONE OF US (as part of the C-Church the Body of Christ) and all of us together (as parts of a good c-Church-TBF) have the opportunity and the obligation today and everyday to participate in the ongoing fulfillment of the Great Commission of our Lord Jesus Christ.