And It Came To Pass...

(Acts 27:1-44)

- Introduction: 1. The expression, "and it came to pass," is used 453 times in the KJV.
 - 2. That expression means, "and then this happened."
 - 3. But it also denotes the passing of time and a change of circumstances.
 - 4. In other words, it can also serve as a reminder that what "comes to pass" isn't what "comes to stay."
 - 5. Let's examine the idea that some things will come to pass but not stay.

I. Background to Paul's Shipwreck

- A. Acts 27 records Paul's fourth shipwreck (2 Corinthians 11:25).
- B. Paul was uneasy about this journey (27:10).
- C. This was a larger ship than what most people realize [276 people](27:37).
- D. They found themselves in a terrible storm and all hope was lost (27:20).
- E. Paul is told by an angel they will survive but the ship will sink (27:22-23).
- F. The sailors attempted to abandon ship (27:30).
- G. They went without food for 14 days (27:33).
- H. "And it came to pass" they all escaped safely to land (27:44).

II. Lessons to Learn

- A. Unpleasant circumstances happen to good people.
 - 1. (Job 1).
 - 2. (Exodus 14:1-10).
- B. What we want isn't always what we need.
 - 1. (Psalm 119:67,71).
 - a. I want prosperity, but I may need poverty in order to seek God's wealth.
 - b. I want good health, but I may need illness in order to long for heaven.
 - c. I want abundance, but I may need inadequacy in order to depend more on God.
 - d. I want success, but I may need to experience failure in order to be humble before God.
 - e. I want acceptance, but I may need rejection in order to better understand how God must feel.
 - f. I want power, but I may need weakness in order to rely upon God's power.
- C. Trials lift our eyes to Heaven.
 - 1. (Hebrews 11:13-16).
- D. In Christ, trials are temporary.
 - 1. (2 Corinthians 4:17).
- Conclusion: 1. Thank God that "it came to pass" isn't "it came to stay!"