

Acts 28:1-10 **Paul ministered on Malta**

Natives of Malta show compassionate hospitality to the shipwreck survivors

¹ Now when they had escaped, they then found out that the island was called Malta. ² And the natives showed us unusual kindness; for they kindled a fire and made us all welcome, because of the rain that was falling and because of the cold.

Snake bite on Malta

³ But when Paul had gathered a bundle of sticks and laid them on the fire, a viper came out because of the heat, and fastened on his hand. ⁴ So when the natives saw the creature hanging from his hand, they said to one another, "No doubt this man is a murderer, whom, though he has escaped the sea, yet justice does not allow to live." ⁵ But he shook off the creature into the fire and suffered no harm. ⁶ However, they were expecting that he would swell up or suddenly fall down dead. But after they had looked for a long time and saw no harm come to him, they changed their minds and said that he was a god.

Miracles of Healings on Malta

⁷ In that region there was an estate of the leading citizen of the island, whose name was Publius, who received us and entertained us courteously for three days. ⁸ And it happened that the father of Publius lay sick of a fever and dysentery. Paul went in to him and prayed, and he laid his hands on him and healed him. ⁹ So when this was done, the rest of those on the island who had diseases also came and were healed.

Honor and provisions from natives of Malta

¹⁰ They also honored us in many ways; and when we departed, they provided such things as were necessary. NKJV

Facts Revealed:

Natives of Malta show compassionate hospitality to the shipwreck survivors

✚ Now when they had escaped, they then found out that the island was called Malta. And the natives showed us unusual kindness; for they kindled a fire and made us all welcome, because of the rain that was falling and because of the cold. [Acts 28:1-2]

✧ From Caesarea to shipwreck on Malta. [Acts 27:1-44]

✧ Cold and wet shipwreck survivors receive unusually kind assistance from natives of Malta.

✧ Malta is a small island in the Mediterranean Sea about 90 miles Southwest of Syracuse Sicily.

Snake bite on Malta

✚ But when Paul had gathered a bundle of sticks and laid them on the fire, a viper came out because of the heat, and fastened on his hand. So when the natives saw the creature hanging from his hand, they said to one another, "**No doubt this man is a murderer, whom, though he has escaped the sea, yet justice does not allow to live.**" . [Acts 28:3-4]

✚ But he shook off the creature into the fire and suffered no harm. However, they were expecting that he would swell up or suddenly fall down dead. **But after they had looked for a long time and saw no harm come to him, they changed their minds and said that he was a god.** [Acts 28:5-6]

✧ We are so likely to judge mistakenly when we look at circumstances and events.

✧ At first impulse they assumed Justice had taken its course because Paul was a prisoner and the snake bit him even after he had escaped from the sea.

- ✧ Then when no harm came to Paul, they thought he was a god.
- ✧ This demonstrates the extremes of human perception and superstition when they do not know the truth.

Miracles of Healings on Malta

- ✧ In that region there was an estate of the leading citizen of the island, whose name was Publius, who received us and entertained us courteously for three days.

And it happened that the father of Publius lay sick of a fever and dysentery. Paul went in to him and prayed, and he laid his hands on him and healed him.

So when this was done, the rest of those on the island who had diseases also came and were healed. [\[Acts 28:7-9\]](#)

- ✧ God provided a great opportunity for Paul to minister in return for the hospitality shown them by the natives of Malta.
- ✧ Paul's message received powerful confirmation by the miracles God did through his hands. [\[Acts 4:29-30, 14:3, 19:11-12, 28:7-9, Romans 15:18-19, Hebrews 2:4\]](#)
- ✧ A wonderful witness for all those with Paul from the ship.

Honor and provisions from natives of Malta

- ✧ **They also honored us in many ways; and when we departed, they provided such things as were necessary.** [\[Acts 28:10\]](#)
- ✧ The people of Malta were blessed by the miracles God had accomplished through the hands of Paul, and they responded by showing honor in many ways during the three months they were on the island. [\[Acts 28:10-11\]](#)
- ✧ They also provided the things the 276 people from the shipwreck needed for their journey on to Rome when they departed from Malta. [\[Acts 27:37, 28:10\]](#)