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# SAINT PAUL'S CAPTIVITY VOYAGE TO ROME AND SHIPWRECK (ACTS 27-28) NEW EVIDENCES OF THE RELATION BETWEEN THE SACRED TEXT AND REALITY

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## **Abstract**

Saint Paul's journey of captivity focused the attention of many scholars in archaeology, biblical hermeneutic and geography, because Luke the physician gives in Acts 27-28 details which were supposed to be fake, but are in fact true. In our paper, we make a survey of the journey's itinerary, pointing to the biblical text and comparing it with the elder literature of trips; survey which reveals that Luke has used information coming from an ocular witness beyond any possible mystification.

*Keywords:* journey, Acts, Paul, shipwreck, wind, manoeuvre, harbour

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## **1. Introduction**

The maritime journeys were usually presented by the harbour mooring (Xenophon of Ephesus, Narrations Ephesians); stopovers are numerous and offer opportunities of tourism.

Travelling also became widespread due to the officials who had to participate at different inspections around the empire, having a numerous escort of civil servants with them during these long journeys.

On the other hand, the extension of the Greek language (the *koinè*) and of the Greek laws to the kingdoms of Lagides (Egypt) and of Seleucides (Syria) prevented feeling of disorientation or the state of insecurity among the travellers. Even more, the passing traveller could be welcomed by one of the numerous professional or religious associations that offered accommodations and food in return of a modest contribution.

In the recites of antique voyages we can find five types of journeys, which are sorted according to their goal:

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