



St James's Church, Piccadilly

197 Piccadilly, London W1J 9LL • Tel: 020 7734 4511 • Twitter: @StJPiccadilly

E-mail: enquiries@sjp.org.uk • **Website:** www.sjp.org.uk

Registered Charity No. 1133048



THE ACTS of THE APOSTLES

**GOSPEL CONVERSATIONS
at ST JAMES'S PICCADILLY**

**Session eight:
Sunday 28th October 2018**

THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES
GOSPEL CONVERSATIONS AT ST JAMES'S PICCADILLY

Sunday 9th September

Acts Chapters 1 and 2 "The Holy Spirit"

Sunday 16th September

Acts 5.17-42, Acts 13.42-52, Acts 19.1-7 "The Holy Spirit"

Sunday 23rd September

Acts Chapters 5 and 6 "The Early Church"

Sunday 30th September

Acts 20.7-end, 16.6-15 "The Early Church"

Sunday 7th October

Acts 2.1-29, Chapter 4 "Peter"

Sunday 14th October

Acts 9.1-31, Chapter 22 "Paul"

Sunday 21st October

Acts 10.9-16, 11.1-18 "a new world"

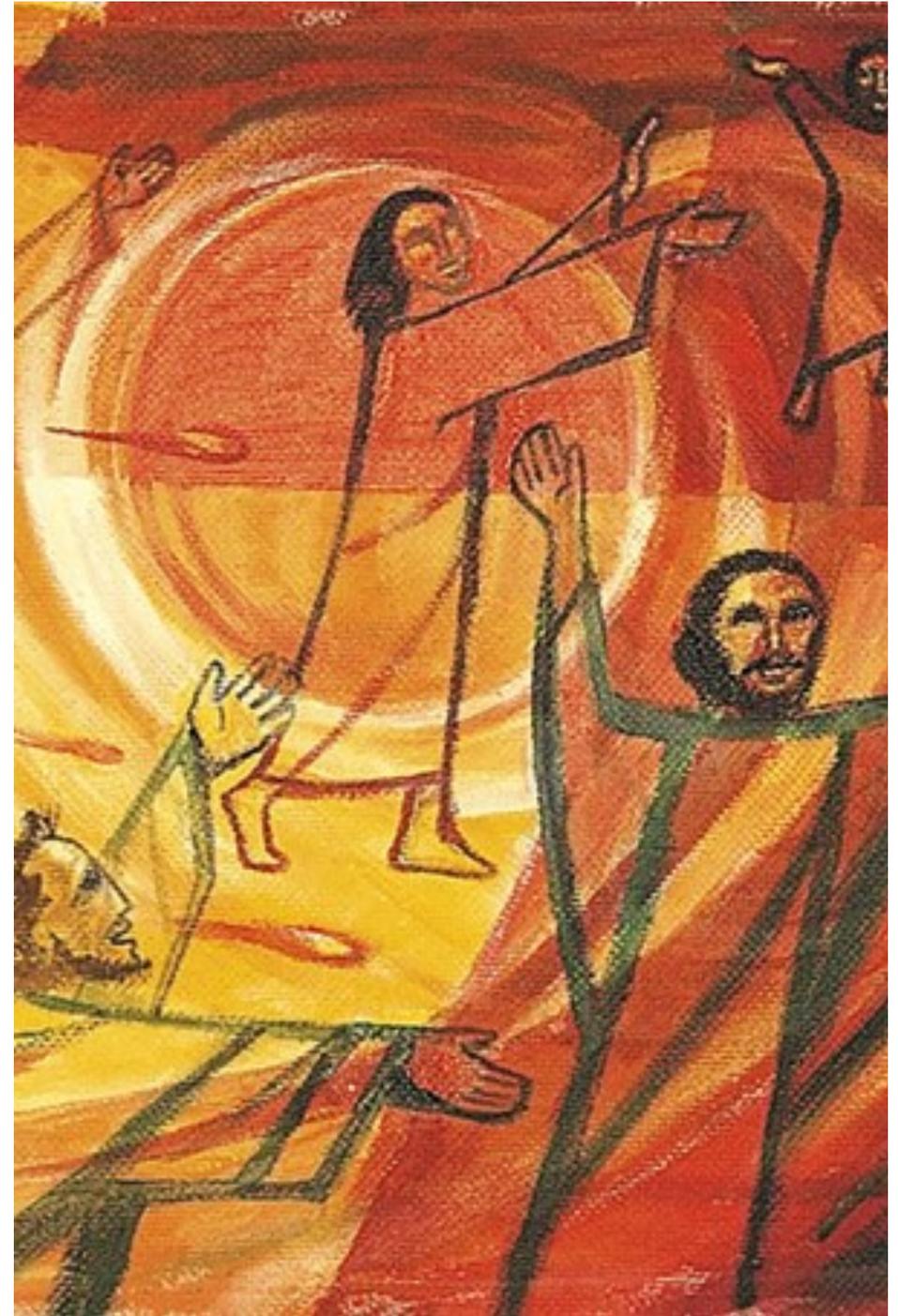
Sunday 28th October

Acts 27.39- 28.31 "a new world"

Each Sunday in the Church Hall, coffee and croissants available from 9.15am with informal discussion. Sessions begin at 9.30am and end at 10.35am.

All sessions facilitated by Debbie O'Brien with The Revd Lucy Winkett.
Contact secretary@sjp.org.uk with queries.

EVERYONE WELCOME





The Acts of the Apostles

Sunday 28th October 2018

Acts 27.39-16– 28.31 “a new world”

The Shipwreck

27 39 In the morning they did not recognize the land, but they noticed a bay with a beach, on which they planned to run the ship ashore, if they could. ⁴⁰So they cast off the anchors and left them in the sea. At the same time they loosened the ropes that tied the steering-oars; then hoisting the foresail to the wind, they made for the beach. ⁴¹But striking a reef, they ran the ship aground; the bow stuck and remained immovable, but the stern was being broken up by the force of the waves. ⁴²The soldiers' plan was to kill the prisoners, so that none might swim away and escape; ⁴³but the centurion, wishing to save Paul, kept them from carrying out their plan. He ordered those who could swim to jump overboard first and make for the land, ⁴⁴and the rest to follow, some on planks and others on pieces of the ship. And so it was that all were brought safely to land.

Paul on the Island of Malta

28 After we had reached safety, we then learned that the island was called Malta. ²The natives showed us unusual kindness. Since it had begun to rain and was cold, they kindled a fire and welcomed all of us round it. ³Paul had gathered a bundle of brushwood and was putting it on the fire, when a viper, driven out by the heat, fastened itself on his hand. ⁴When the natives saw the creature hanging from his hand, they said to one another, 'This man must be a murderer; though he has escaped from the sea, justice has not allowed him to live.' ⁵He, however, shook off the creature into the fire and suffered no harm. ⁶They were expecting him to swell up or drop dead, but after they had waited a long time and saw that nothing unusual had happened

to him, they changed their minds and began to say that he was a god.
7 Now in the neighbourhood of that place were lands belonging to the leading man of the island, named Publius, who received us and entertained us hospitably for three days. ⁸It so happened that the father of Publius lay sick in bed with fever and dysentery. Paul visited him and cured him by praying and putting his hands on him. ⁹After this happened, the rest of the people on the island who had diseases also came and were cured. ¹⁰They bestowed many honours on us, and when we were about to sail, they put on board all the provisions we needed.

Paul Arrives at Rome

¹¹ Three months later we set sail on a ship that had wintered at the island, an Alexandrian ship with the Twin Brothers as its figurehead. ¹²We put in at Syracuse and stayed there for three days; ¹³then we weighed anchor and came to Rhegium. After one day there a south wind sprang up, and on the second day we came to Puteoli. ¹⁴There we found believers and were invited to stay with them for seven days. And so we came to Rome. ¹⁵The believers from there, when they heard of us, came as far as the Forum of Appius and Three Taverns to meet us. On seeing them, Paul thanked God and took courage.

¹⁶ When we came into Rome, Paul was allowed to live by himself, with the soldier who was guarding him.

Paul and Jewish Leaders in Rome

¹⁷ Three days later he called together the local leaders of the Jews. When they had assembled, he said to them, 'Brothers, though I had done nothing against our people or the customs of our ancestors, yet I was arrested in Jerusalem and handed over to the Romans. ¹⁸When they had examined me, the Romans wanted to release me, because there was no reason for the death penalty in my case. ¹⁹But when the Jews objected, I was compelled to appeal to the emperor—even

though I had no charge to bring against my nation. ²⁰For this reason therefore I have asked to see you and speak with you, since it is for the sake of the hope of Israel that I am bound with this chain.' ²¹They replied, 'We have received no letters from Judea about you, and none of the brothers coming here has reported or spoken anything evil about you. ²²But we would like to hear from you what you think, for with regard to this sect we know that everywhere it is spoken against.'

Paul Preaches in Rome

²³ After they had fixed a day to meet him, they came to him at his lodgings in great numbers. From morning until evening he explained the matter to them, testifying to the kingdom of God and trying to convince them about Jesus both from the law of Moses and from the prophets. ²⁴Some were convinced by what he had said, while others refused to believe. ²⁵So they disagreed with each other; and as they were leaving, Paul made one further statement: 'The Holy Spirit was right in saying to your ancestors through the prophet Isaiah,

²⁶ "Go to this people and say,

You will indeed listen, but never understand,
and you will indeed look, but never perceive.

²⁷ For this people's heart has grown dull,
and their ears are hard of hearing,
and they have shut their eyes;
so that they might not look with their eyes,
and listen with their ears,
and understand with their heart and turn—
and I would heal them."

²⁸ Let it be known to you then that this salvation of God has been sent to the Gentiles; they will listen.'

³⁰ He lived there for two whole years at his own expense and welcomed all who came to him, ³¹proclaiming the kingdom of God and teaching about the Lord Jesus Christ with all boldness and without hindrance.