

What kind of chance is there that 48 of the prophecies would be fulfilled in one man? 1 in 10^{157} .

The electron is about as small an object as we know of. It is so small that it will take 2.5×10^{15} of them laid side by side to make a line, single file, one inch long. It would take us 19,000,000 years to count just the one-inch line of electrons.

1 in 10^{157} . Let us suppose that we are taking this number of electrons, marking one, and thoroughly stirring it into the whole mass, then blindfolding a man and letting him try to find the right one. What chance has he of finding the right one?

The same chance that Jesus had of fulfilling 48 prophecies from the law and prophets...and yet he filled all 61 major prophecies....and we get all excited over a vague prediction by Nostradamus???

V. In Rome 28-30-31

He preached the Kingdom of God and Jesus Christ. The same thing he preached in v23.

Probably he insisted on two topics

- a. that the Kingdom of God, which they had so long expected, was of a spiritual and not a temporal nature;
- b. and that Jesus of Nazareth in whose name he preached was the person foretold as the promised Messiah and lord of that kingdom.

And he did so unhindered! I think that is a good title for all of the events of Acts, and these events of Acts 27-28. In the midst of one "catastrophe" after another the gospel advances!

The gospel is proclaimed to Felix, Festus, Agrippa, countless soldiers and guards, not to mention fellow prisoners.

1. This unfortunate series of events were not viewed as obstacles, but as opportunities!
2. And the gospel was unhindered.

How many on that ship were impressed by the gospel message and the testimony of the messenger?

1. From ignorant prisoner, to vindicated missionary, to in charge of the ship!
2. How many were impressed and impacted by his message and his power?
3. The gospel was unhindered!

How many on Malta were impacted by the gospel message and the labors of the messenger?

1. Some may call it a wreck, but the ruins were just the foundation upon which the temple of the Lord was raised!
2. Who can say how many depraved hearts were healed, how many sons and daughters were born to God and to glory, in these three months which Paul and Luke spent here!
3. The Gospel advanced unhindered!

Before the Jews or under house arrest, the gospel goes forth!

1. Paul had envisioned himself delivering an offering and making a pass through Rome to Spain to proclaim the gospel to those who had never heard.
2. Instead he goes from one unjust prison stay of 2 years to another unjust prison stay of 2 years by way of a shipwreck and being stranded on an island of "barbarians!"
3. In Paul's mind however, these were not obstacles...they were opportunities.
4. The gospel was unhindered.

5. 2 Timothy 2:8-9 *Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, descendant of David, according to my gospel, for which I suffer hardship even to imprisonment as a criminal; but the word of God is not imprisoned*

Application:

1. It is time for the church of Jesus Christ to embrace the Kingdom of God and the resurrected Lord
2. It is time for the church of Jesus Christ to tackle obstacles head-long knowing that in the providence of our Sovereign and great God they are opportunities!

Lead us into whatever difficulties and dangers thou pleasest, and we will cheerfully wait the happy event which shall at length prove the wisdom and kindness of thy most mysterious conduct. Doddridge

Romans 8:28 *And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose*