

Acts 28:1-10



Unexpected Stay on Malta

Other stays on Malta



- Who has been to Malta?

St Paul's Bay



Where is Malta?



Acts 27:37-Acts 28:14



- Listen out for:
 - How did Paul get to Malta?
 - How many people landed?
 - What kind of snake bit Paul?
 - How many people on Malta are named?
 - Did God's kingdom come on Malta?
 - Why do you think so/not?
 - How long did Paul stay there?
 - Where was Paul trying to go?

Paul's Journey to Rome



Homer's Odysseus (7th or 8th Century BC)



Homer - low expectations?

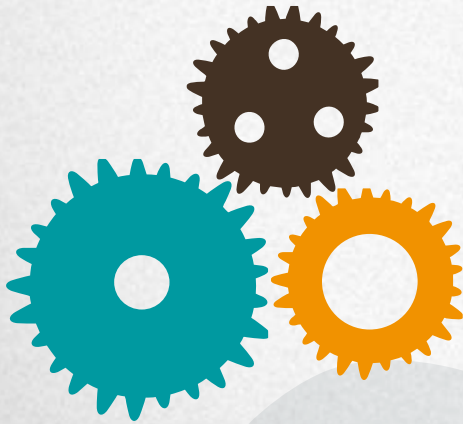
Alas, to the land of what mortals have I now come? Are they insolent, wild and unjust? Or are they hospitable to strangers and fear the gods in their thoughts? (Odyssey, 6.119-121).



Rubens (1630-33), Zeus and Hermes test a village's hospitality

What were the Maltese like?

- ‘the islanders’ (v.2,4)
- Βάρβαροι - Barbaroi
- Barbarians?



"Wara li sibna ruġna salvati, sirna nafu
li l-gżira kienet tissejjaħ Malta."

("After we were safely ashore, we
found out that the island was called
Malta." Acts 28:1)



Snippet of Maltese (Malti)



What does Luke say about the Maltese ?

Welcoming
(v.2,7)

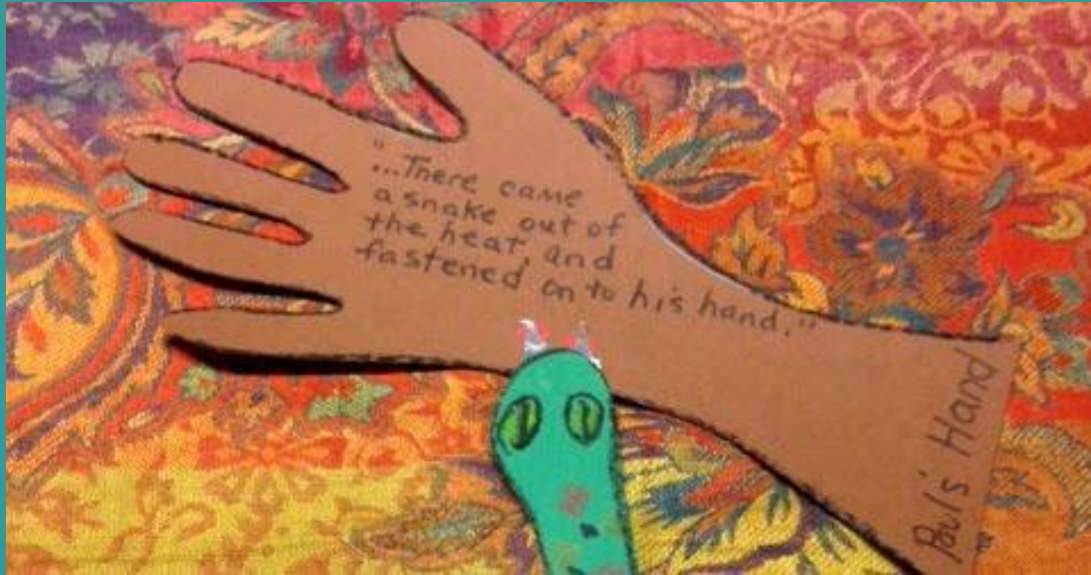
Generously
hospitable
(v.7)

Receptive and
responsive
(v.9)

Unusually kind
(v.2)

Honouring and
generous
(v.10)

But what about the snake?



Maltese snakes today



Maltese snakes today



Maltese superstition and confusion

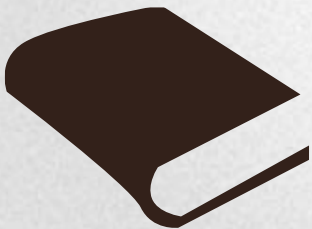
- Who is this guy, Paul (v.3-6)?
 - *Is it a murderer?*
 - *Is it a god?*
 - *No, it's a super apostle!*





Snakes in the gospels:

- Mark 16:15-18
- Luke 10:1-20



Applications:

1. He who is in you ...



Applications:

1. He who is in you ...
2. Gospel spread is unstoppable



Applications:

1. He who is in you ...
2. Gospel spread is unstoppable
3. Mutual hospitality matters



Hospitality = food?



Andrew Artebury

- NT hospitality:
 - Initiation
 - Location
 - Composition
 - Entanglement
 - Departure



Applications:

1. He who is in you ...
2. Gospel spread is unstoppable
3. Mutual hospitality matters
4. Unwelcome/welcome detours



Acts 28:1-10



Unexpected Stay on Malta