~PATARA (33) (Pat'a-ra)

- The Lycian seaport where the apostle Paul and his associates, likely in 56 C.E, transferred to a boat sailing for Phoenicia.
- Now when we had torn ourselves away from them and put out to sea, we ran with a straight course and came to Cos, but on the next day to Rhodes, and from there to Patara. (Acts of Apostles 21:1)
- And when we had found a boat that was crossing to Phoenicia, we went aboard and sailed away. (Acts of Apostles 21:2)
- Patara is today identified with ancient ruins at the village of Gelemish on the mountainous Southwest coast of Asia Minor and lies about 10 kilometers (6 miles) East of the mouth of the Xanthus (Koca) River. It served as a port of call for ships from Italy, Egypt, Syria, and other places, and it was the primary harbor for cities along the Xanthus River valley.
- Now when we had torn ourselves away from them and put out to sea, we ran with a straight course and came to Cos, but on the next day to Rhodes, and from there to Patara. (Acts of Apostles 21:1)
- Certain ancient manuscripts add, and Myra, after Patara. If this addition is correct, then the ship on which Paul sailed from Miletus either passed Patara or put into port there, with the actual transfer to another boat taking place at Myra, not Patara.