

## Acts 20:17-38 Sermon Notes

Acts 20:17 (ESV) Now from Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called the elders of the church to come to him.

### The Example of Paul's Attitude

Acts 20:18–20 (ESV) You yourselves know how I lived among you the whole time from the first day that I set foot in Asia, serving the Lord with all humility...

Humility. Literally lowliness of mind. Greeks and Romans did not have a word for humility. And when it entered their language it was derogatory.

Philippians 2:3–5 (ESV) Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. <sup>4</sup> Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. <sup>5</sup> Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus.

Isaiah 66:2 (ESV) But this is the one to whom I will look: he who is humble and contrite in spirit and trembles at my word.

Compassion. *and with tears*

Luke 19:41 (ESV) And when he (Jesus) drew near and saw the city, he wept over it,

2 Corinthians 2:4 (ESV) For I wrote to you out of much affliction and anguish of heart and with many tears, not to cause you pain but to let you know the abundant love that I have for you.

Persistence. *and with trials that happened to me through the plots of the Jews.*

Trials is also translated temptation- "Lead us not into temptation."

James 1:2–3 (ESV) Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, <sup>3</sup> for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness.

Boldness. *how I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, and teaching you in public and from house to house,*

Shrink. Literally draw in. Used for drawing in sails on a ship. See vs 27.

### The Example of Paul's Efforts

He Preached. *declaring to you anything that was profitable*

Acts 20:21 (ESV) testifying both to Jews and to Greeks of repentance toward God and of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.

He Planned. *teaching you in public and from house to house to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.*

He Discipled. Acts 20:27 (ESV) for I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole counsel of God.

Colossians 2:6–7 (ESV) Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, <sup>7</sup> rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

He Gave and showed Faithful Stewardship. Acts 20:35 (ESV) In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'

### **The Exhortation of Paul**

Care for Yourself. Acts 20:28 (ESV) *Pay careful attention to yourselves ...*

Pay careful attention. Beware, be on your guard, take heed.

1 Timothy 4:16 (ESV) Keep a close watch on yourself and on the teaching. Persist in this, for by so doing you will save both yourself and your hearers.

Care for the Church Body. Vs 28. *and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers,*

Overseers. Episcopos or bishop.

1 Peter 5:1–3 (ESV) So I exhort the elders among you, as a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, as well as a partaker in the glory that is going to be revealed: <sup>2</sup> shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you; not for shameful gain, but eagerly; <sup>3</sup> not domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the flock.

Shepherd/pastor. Vs 28. *to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood.*

Care. Literally shepherd.

Protect from False Teaching. Acts 20:29–30 (ESV) I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; <sup>30</sup> and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them.

2 John 7 (ESV) For many deceivers have gone out into the world, those who do not confess the coming of Jesus Christ in the flesh. Such a one is the deceiver and the antichrist.

Rest in God's grace. Acts 20:32 (ESV) And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified.

2 Corinthians 12:9–10 (ESV) But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. <sup>10</sup> For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.