

"THE FAITHFUL SOLDIER"
ACTS 20
Satilla Baptist Church
Wray, GA
Sunday September 23rd 2018 AM Service
Pastor William Pope
www.satillachurch.com
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I. PAUL LEAVES EPHESUS (1-6)

- a. Paul had ministered in Ephesus for 3 years. (20:31)
- b. Paul was on his way to Jerusalem and eventually to Rome. (20:21)
- c. Lessons from this passage:
 - i. "Embraced Them" (1) **Brotherly Love**
 - ii. "Gone over that region and encouraged them with many words" (2) **Power of spoken Word**
 - iii. "Jews Plotted against him" (3) **Opposition**
 - iv. "he decided to return to Macedonia" (3) **Change of Plans**
 - v. "Group of Brethren 7 men" (4-5) **Importance of Friends**

II. MINISTERING AT TROAS (7-12)

- a. 7 Day Ministry (6)
- b. Meeting on Sunday. (7)
 - i. *1 Cor 16 Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given orders to the churches of Galatia, so you must do also: 2 **On the first day of the week** let each one of you lay something aside, storing up as he may prosper, that there be no collections when I come.*
 - ii. Reasons Christians do not keep the Sabbath and worship on Sunday
 - 1. Sabbath was a sign of the Mosaic (Old) Covenant. Christians are under the "New" Covenant.
 - 2. There is no NT Command to keep the Sabbath.
 - 3. Acts 15, The Jerusalem Council did not include Sabbath keeping in its instructions to Gentile Believers.
 - 4. Paul in all his writings never admonished or cautioned Believers about not keeping the Sabbath.
 - 5. NT teaches that Sabbath keeping is not a requirement:

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- a. *Romans 14:5 One person esteems one day above another; another esteems every day alike. Let each be fully convinced in his own mind. 6 He who observes the day, observes it to the Lord; [a]and he who does not observe the day, to the Lord he does not observe it.*
- b. *Galations 4:9 But now after you have known God, or rather are known by God, how is it that you turn again to the weak and beggarly elements, to which you desire again to be in bondage? 10 You observe days and months and seasons and years. 11 I am afraid for you, lest I have labored for you in vain.*
- c. *Colosians 2:16 So let no one judge you in food or in drink, or regarding a [j]festival or a new moon or sabbaths, 17 which are a shadow of things to come, but the [k]substance is of Christ*

c. “Breaking Bread” To observe Communion

d. A young man raised from the Dead (8-12)

- i. Paul was long-winded
- ii. Many oil burning lamps, fumes
- iii. Fell Asleep and fell out of a 3rd Story window and was killed.
- iv. Paul embraces him and his life is restored.
- v. All night meeting

III. PAUL’S FAREWELL TO THE EPHESAIN ELDERS (17-38)

- a. One of the great passages of pastoral care and an example of ministry to all pastors and elders and teachers and to any servant of

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Christ in how to minister. Great Lessons to be learned from this passage:

- i. A Consistent Testimony (18)**
 1. You know
 2. I always lived among you
- ii. Witness of Suffering (19)**
 1. Serving the Lord with all Humility
 2. Many Tears and Trails
- iii. Preaching the Full Gospel (20)**
 1. Kept back nothing that was helpful
 2. From house to house (There were no church buildings until around the 3rd Century)
- iv. Preaching to Everybody (21)**
 1. Jews and Greeks
- v. Simple Message (21)**
 1. Repentance toward God, Faith in the Lord Jesus Christ
- vi. Obedience to the Spirit, Denial of Self (22-24)**
- vii. This too will pass (25)**
 1. No ministry lasts forever.
- viii. Responsibility to God for what we tell others or don't tell others (26-28)**
 1. Innocent of the Blood of all men
 2. Not shunned to declare to you the whole counsel of God
 - a. Ezelkiel 33 Again the word of the Lord came to me, saying, 2 "Son of man, speak to the children of your people, and say to them: 'When I bring the sword upon a land, and the people of the land take a man from their territory and make him*

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their watchman, 3 when he sees the sword coming upon the land, if he blows the trumpet and warns the people, 4 then whoever hears the sound of the trumpet and does not take warning, if the sword comes and takes him away, his blood shall be on his own head. 5 He heard the sound of the trumpet, but did not take warning; his blood shall be upon himself. But he who takes warning will [a]save his life. 6 But if the watchman sees the sword coming and does not blow the trumpet, and the people are not warned, and the sword comes and takes any person from among them, he is taken away in his iniquity; but his blood I will require at the watchman's hand.' 7 "So you, son of man: I have made you a watchman for the house of Israel; therefore you shall hear a word from My mouth and warn them for Me. 8 When I say to the wicked, 'O wicked man, you shall surely die!' and you do not speak to warn the wicked from his way, that wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood I will require at your hand. 9 Nevertheless if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, he shall die in his iniquity; but you have [b]delivered your soul.

ix. The Church we serve is not our own (28)

1. Church of God, purchased with His Own Blood

x. Be on Guard against the Wolf! (29-31)

1. Savage Wolves

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2. Speaking Perverse Things

xi. Give our charge to God (32)

1. Commend our charge to God, He is able.

xii. Not Greed, but a willingness to work (33-35)

1. An example to the church of unselfishness.

xiii. Praying together (36-38)