

Acts 20-21 *The Third Missionary Journey.***NOTES****Acts 20:1-16 Exhortations to Churches – *It is high time to awake out of sleep!***

1. Paul departed from Ephesus with several faithful men and went through Macedonia and Greece exhorting the churches before returning through Macedonia to Troas.
2. Paul spent seven days with the church at Troas, and was long in his preaching.
3. Paul went to Assos by himself on foot while the others went by ship, and then they sailed together down the western coast of Asia Minor before coming to Miletus.

Acts 20:17-38 Last words to the Ephesian elders – *Nothing held back!*

1. Paul's last words to the Ephesian elders included a reminder of how they knew from the first day of his arrival his manner of life – an example for all to follow.
2. Paul's last words included a reminder of how they knew he kept nothing back that was profitable unto them, but shewed them, and taught them (privately and publicly), and how he preached repentance and faith in Christ alone to all the world.
3. Paul's last words included a reminder of how they knew he testified both to the Jews and also to the Greeks repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.
4. After reminding of the past, Paul's focus was the now, and the reality that he must go to Jerusalem – even though it was clearly understood that bonds and afflictions will surely come.
5. Paul was not moved by life's trials and afflictions because his desire was to finish his course with joy, and the ministry, which he received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel.
6. Paul took them to record that he was pure from the blood of all men, and he had not shunned to declare unto them all the counsel of God.
7. Paul said to take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock entrusted to them by God which He had purchased with His own blood.
8. Paul said to watch, remember, and warn without ceasing, every day, with tears.
9. After 3 years of labor and love, all that Paul could do now was commend them to God and to His word.
10. Paul's final words were to remind them of the words of our Lord Jesus, how He said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive."
11. After Paul had spoken his last words, he kneeled down, and prayed with them all.
12. The leaders of God's church in Ephesus sorrowed most of all that they would see Paul's face no more.

Acts 21:1-40 Paul goes to Jerusalem at his own peril

1. While headed on a straight course for Jerusalem, Paul and his company found many disciples and tarried with them as long as possible.
2. While Paul and his company were in Caesarea for many days with the disciples, the Holy Ghost witnessed through Agabus of trouble coming for Paul at Jerusalem.
3. After hearing the words of Agabus and the Holy Ghost, Paul's company and the disciples at Caesarea besought him not to go up to Jerusalem.
4. When Paul would not be persuaded, they ceased, saying, "The will of the Lord be done."
5. Paul and his company came to Jerusalem and were received gladly by the brethren there and the church – including James (the Lord's brother) and the elders.
6. When the Jews of Asia came to Jerusalem, they went about to kill Paul and stir up all the people against Paul and the gospel.
7. Upon being rescued by the chief captain, soldiers, and centurions, Paul asked to speak to the chief captain and then to the Jews who had just tried to kill him.

Personal Applications

1. What did God speak to you about tonight? What does He want you to do differently beginning now?
2. Have you taken ownership of the Gospel ministry personally? Are you ready to advance the Gospel?