

Troas on the Lord's Day

Acts 20

- 3rd Journey
- Early church had many needy (2-3), wealthy sold land (4-5).
- When a famine hit, Antioch church sent needed help to Jerusalem (11-12). P worked on collecting these funds during 3rd journey.

1. Macedonia, Greece, Troas – v. 1-6

- 1: open door slammed shut in Eph., going to Macedonia to collect for those in need
- 2: joyful reunion with fellow Christians
- 3: 3mo = winter months; wrote his masterpiece, Romans, here. Wrote he anticipated going to Rome yet knew the dangers ahead.
- Goal: Jerusalem; ship going to Syria.
- 4: Sopater: prob. same as Rom.16:21
- Secundus: father's 2nd son or a slave w/#. (Rm. 16:22,23 Tertius, Quartus)
- Gaius: 19:29
- Timothy: w/ P when he wrote Rom. (16:21)
- Tychicus: w/ P when he was in Rome
- Trophimus: one Jew accused P of taking into Temple 21:29
- 5: providence revealed plans; decided to go long way over land
- 6: sailed from Neapolis, seaport of Philippi
- Trip took 5 days sailing against wind. Previous trip the other way took 2 days (16:11)
- Early Spring; LK present "we"
- 7 days: got there on Monday, wanted to worship – trip took longer than expected

2. Sunday in Troas – v. 7-12

- 7: P didn't use 'out of town' or 'away from home cong.' as an excuse to not attend; command to assemble on 1st day; met at night, worked that morning; came to partake of Lord's Supper; P preached a good sermon!
- 8: purpose of meeting more important than place; prob. apartment-like bldg.; high up & many lamps make for lack of oxygen

- 9: late night, crowded room, low O₂ took toll on Eutychus; drifted off gradually; sleep – hupnos – hypnosis; between 18-40yo, worked all day, exhausted. Window for air?
- 10: like Elijah & Elisha; Dr. LK he is dead, P says life returned to him; shattered bones mended, joints back in place, blood vessels repaired, torn tissue restored, heart start again
- 11: returned to 3rd story room; P enjoyed a good visit
- 12: greatly comforted: typical understatement by Dr. LK

3. To Jerusalem – v. 13-16

- 13: Assos: next port of call, other side of Peninsula from Troas, 20mi by land, 40mi by sea, sent them around
- 14: ship stopped in several cities, like a commuter train
- Mitylene: harbor on SE shore of island Lesbos
- 15: Chios & Samos: islands
- 16: ship didn't stop in Eph; P already missed Passover (6), wants to be in Jerusalem for Pentecost 50 days later. 1/3 of that period already gone.
- Wanted to celebrate Jewish heritage and deliver funds.

4. Ephesian Elders – v. 17-38

- 7 sermons by P in Acts – only one to Chr.
- 17: 2- or 3-day layover to exchange cargo; elders travelled 30mi S
- 18: P frequently reminded others of his way of life
- 19: 3yrs in Eph.; serving as slave; 2x P mentions shedding tears – real men cry [Jn. 11:35, 2 Cor. 2:4, Phil. 3:18]
- 20: 'Did not shirk' sailor's terms for 'I did not lower my sails' – P preached everywhere
- 21: stressed he taught all God's Word
- 22: preaching not about security
- 23: knew bonds & afflictions ahead, HS warn?
- 24: P wanted to finish his course, and he would – 2 Tim. 4:7
- 25: he may have visited later [1 Tim. 1:3, 3:14] but didn't know that at the time.
- 26: see Ezek. 3:16-21, 33:1-9; NCV "If any of you should be lost, I am not responsible."
- 27: preacher's 1st responsibility is to God!

- 28: gave them a charge – must 1st care for themselves before caring for the church!
- Elder’s job not for glory and honor – dirty
- HS gave qualifications for elders; only time *Church of God* in Acts – a fav. of P; costly price to establish the church
- 29: must remain vigilant
- 30: wolves did enter the flock: 6 mentioned in NT: **Hymenaeus & Alexander** [1 Tim. 1:19, 20], **Phygelus & Hermogenes** [2 Tim. 1:15], **Philetus** [2 Tim. 2:17], **Diotrephes** [3 Jn. 9]
- Gnosticism arose in Eph. (Judaism & pagan philosophies)
- 31: not a 9-5 job
- 32: could be a great place to end: emphasis on God & His Word
- 33: must be free from love of \$\$ - 1 Tim. 3:3
- 34: showed working hands
- 35: same teaching in letter, Eph. 4:28; only place these words recorded [Jn. 20:30] qtd. Christ long before a Gospel account written
- 36: normally stood to pray
- 37,38: kiss a standard form of greeting, implied friendship
- Imagine standing on tiptoe, waving until ship disappeared from their view.

Lessons:

1. Paul showed great care for the poor. We should help both the physically & spiritually poor.
2. Acts 20:7 is book, chapter, & verse proof we are to assemble on the 1st day of the week & partake of the Lord’s Supper. Anyone who says otherwise is not living by God’s Word.
3. It is okay to make plans, as long as they are in accordance with God’s Will – James 4:13-14.
4. Paul’s admonition to the elders is still true today; they oversee the flock & must do all they can to keep the wolves out.

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