

Where's Your Chair?

Acts 20 25-38



For my kindred and companions' sake, I will pray that peace will be with you.
For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek to do you good.
Psalm 122:8-9

Praising:

O perfect redemption, the
purchase of blood!
To every believer the promise of
God;
the vilest offender who truly
believes,
that moment from Jesus a pardon
receives.

Reading:

Acts 20:25-38
Paul's farewell to the Ephesian
elders

It is an emotional final parting for Paul from Ephesus, but it affords him one last opportunity to press home the urgency of the Gospel message. In one sense, Paul is spiritually washing his hands of them. He has not stinted on his task of proclamation and to that extent his conscience is clear. He charges the Church leaders to be

vigilant in their oversight. If Christ shed his blood for those in their care, then it befalls them to be attentive pastors, especially since spiritual attack will come, from within the community as well from without. Entrusting them to God, Paul reminds them that he made no material demands on his Ephesian hosts and in fact set them the example of giving charitably from what he earned at tent-making. After one last tearful prayer, Paul sets sail.

Listening:

Praying:

Lord you make life to be full of meetings and partings

- help us greet new people warmly, generously and open-heartedly
- we thank you for those we no longer see who lived out your truth to us
- when the time comes give us strength to move on, let go and leave behind

Father: so many people have come into my life and gone out of my life, teaching me and shaping me. Give me the love to show Christ to others, as Christ has been shown to me. Amen

Doing:

Tuesday, 21 June 2016