



Daily Reflections

May 16, 2018

Scripture

Acts 20: 28-38

At Miletus, Paul spoke to the presbyters of the Church of Ephesus:

“Keep watch over yourselves and over the whole flock of which the Holy Spirit has appointed you overseers, in which you tend the Church of God that he acquired with his own Blood.

I know that after my departure savage wolves will come among you, and they will not spare the flock.

And from your own group, men will come forward perverting the truth to draw the disciples away after them.

So be vigilant and remember that for three years, night and day, I unceasingly admonished each of you with tears.

And now I commend you to God

and to that gracious word of his that can build you up and give you the inheritance among all who are consecrated.

I have never wanted anyone’s silver or gold or clothing.

You know well that these very hands have served my needs and my companions.

In every way I have shown you that by hard work of that sort we must help the weak,

and keep in mind the words of the Lord Jesus who himself said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’”

When he had finished speaking he knelt down and prayed with them all.

They were all weeping loudly
as they threw their arms around Paul and kissed him,
for they were deeply distressed that he had said
that they would never see his face again.
Then they escorted him to the ship.

Our Scripture Reflection

Here we get a glimpse of how Paul a real shepherd and father to his flock ministered. He imitated His Lord Jesus at all times. What a lesson the pastors of our own day could learn from Paul. Please recall, Paul was once a horrible and vicious persecutor of Christians. The Grace of God changed everything. He became totally devoted to the Lord's mission for him so much so that he eventually gave everything for it.

Food for your Journey

When I look back upon my early days, I am stirred by the thought of the number of people whom I have to thank for what they gave me or what they were to me. At the same time, I am haunted by an oppressive consciousness of the little gratitude I really showed them while I was young. How many of them have said farewell to life without my having made clear to them what it meant to me to receive from them so much kindness or so much care! Many a time have I, with a feeling of shame, said quietly to myself over a grave the words which my mouth ought to have spoken to the departed, while he was still in the flesh.

--Albert Schweitzer,

Memoirs of Childhood and Youth

(New York:Macmillan, 1925), 87.

A Prayer from the Heart

Dear Jesus, Pour forth Your wonderful and amazing Grace upon me so that like the sinner turned saint, Paul, I may live out in fidelity Your calling for me. When hardships occur, like Paul, may I remain strong, courageous and steadfast. Amen