

The Last Words to Church Leaders

Acts 20: 28–38

1 *Guard, keep watch over yourselves and the church*

2 *Shepherd the church of God*

- a. Because God has bought it with His own blood
- b. Because you are overseers, elders and shepherds
- c. Because false teachers will come in
 - 1) From the outside
 - 2) From among you
 - 3) Distort, pervert the truth
 - 4) Purpose: To draw away disciples
- d. Because of Paul's supreme example of faithfulness

3 *Live for God and for God's Word*

- a. God and His Word are able to build you up
- b. God and His Word are able to give you an inheritance

4 *Labour and give, not coveting worldly wealth*

- a. Paul coveted no wealth
- b. Paul laboured at secular work
 - 1) To meet own needs
 - 2) To help ministers
 - 3) To help the weak
 - 4) To be more like Jesus

28 Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which he bought with his own blood.

29 I know that after I leave, savage wolves will come in among you and will not spare the flock.

30 Even from your own number men will arise and distort the truth in order to draw away disciples after them.

31 So be on your guard! Remember that for three years I never stopped warning each of you night and day with tears.

32 Now I commit you to God and to the word of his grace, which can build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified.

33 I have not coveted anyone's silver or gold or clothing.

34 You yourselves know that these hands of mine have supplied my own needs and the needs of my companions.

35 In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'

5 Conclusion:
Pastor and people departed

- a. They prayed
- b. They expressed
a great affection and love

36 When he had said this,
he knelt down with all of them and prayed.

37 They all wept
as they embraced him and kissed him.

38 What grieved them most was his statement
that they would never see his face again.
Then they accompanied him to the ship.