

# A Shepherd's Farewell

Acts 20:17-38

PART 1

## Introduction

The passage is easily divided into 3 sections: *Past* (vv17-21), *Present* (vv22-27), and *Future* (vv28-31).

- I. Past Reminders (vv17-21)
- II. Personal Reflections (vv22-27)
- III. Potential Risks (vv28-32)
- IV. Parting Ruminations (vv33-38)

## I. Past Reminders (vv17-21)

**v17**

**v18**

1 Thessalonians 2:8

**v19**

**v20**

*"I did not shrink"* Gk *hupostello*; 'to hold under, conceal'; 'to cower, shun, withdraw.'

*"from declaring to you anything that was profitable, and teaching you"*

*"in public and from house to house"*

Acts 5:42

**v21**

*"repentance"* Gk *metanoia*; *"faith"* Gk *pistis*.

These two words are essential to *justification*.

Together they comprise the outcome of *conversion*.

Two of the great triumphs of the gospel: restoring *comfort and joy* in God's reconciled people.

Isaiah 61:1-3

**This is our redemption story.**

The first word of Jesus' first sermon was "Repent" (Matt. 4:17). Luke 24:47

Three necessary steps of true repentance that lead to restoration, comfort and joy:

### 1. INTELLECTUAL

**The first step toward reconciliation and restoration is confronting sin with biblical truth, *conviction*.**

John 17:17

2 Corinthians 4:4; John 8:44-47

Judas: Matthew 27:3-5

**Biblical truth must confront the *delusion* of sin.**

"Before God can deliver us we must undeceive ourselves." Augustine

### 2. EMOTIONAL

**The second step is to feel a deep remorse, sorrow, brokenness over sin. This is *contrition*.**

But, *sorrow alone* does not make repentance that leads to life.

Sorrow over sin might be produced by:

- ❖ Sorrow over getting caught.
- ❖ Sorrow over circumstances.
- ❖ Sorrow over incurring pain.
- ❖ Sorrow over causing others pain.
- ❖ Sorrow over loss.

The Rich Young Ruler: Luke 18:18-23

"Against you, you alone, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight" Psalm 51:4

Esau: Hebrews 12:16-17

### 3. VOLITIONAL

**The third step is *turning* away from sin and toward God. This is a deliberate change of *direction*.**

The two concepts are inseparable and complementary to each other.

Acts 9:35

1 Thessalonians 1:9

Acts 26:19-21

“Whoever conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy.” Proverbs 28:13

**True repentance includes a change of mind, a change of heart, and a deliberate change of direction.**

“the Lord persistently sent to you all his servants the prophets, saying, 'Turn now, every one of you, from his evil way and evil deeds.’” Jeremiah 25:4-5

Isaiah 55:6-7

Isaiah 65:18-19

Isaiah 66:13-14

Jeremiah 31:13-14

Joel 2:12-13