

# A Shepherd's Farewell

Acts 20:17-38

PART FOUR

## Introduction

**v32**

*"commend you to God and to the word of his grace"*

Colossians 1:12

Colossians 3:24

1 Peter 1:4-5

## IV. Parting Ruminations (vv33-38)

**v33** *I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel.*

**1. The Faithful Shepherd is content, not covetous.**

*I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel.*

1 Thessalonians 2:5

1 Timothy 6:6-10

**Covetousness is a snare. Learning to be content with what you have sets you free.**

Philippians 4:11

Hebrews 13:5

**v34**

**2. The Faithful Shepherd is hard worker, not a lazy sluggard.**

*these hands ministered to my necessities and to those who were with me.*

*"we labor, working with our own hands."* 1 Corinthians 4:12

1 Thessalonians 2:9

2 Thessalonians 3:8-10

1 Corinthians 9:4-14

Galatians 6:6

1 Timothy 5:17-18

Colossians 3:23

John 9:4

**v35**

Paul's final exhortation before departure contains three important exhortations:

- 1) work hard;
- 2) help the weak;
- 3) give more than you get.

***"I have shown you"***

**3. The Faithful Shepherd is a helper, not a hindrance.**

***"by working hard we must help the weak"***

Romans 15:1

***Help is a verb that defines love.***

1 Thessalonians 5:14

"Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ." Galatians 6:2

**4. The Faithful Shepherd is a giver, not a taker.**

***"the words of the Lord Jesus 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"***

2 Corinthians 9:6-11

Isaiah 58:10

"Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will repay him for his deed." Proverbs 19:17

Matthew 25:34-40

Hebrews 13:16

**God gives.** It is His nature to give. He gives freely. He gives generously. And He gives constantly.

† He gives the *gift* of "living water" John 4:10.

- † He gives the *gift* of “the Holy Spirit” Acts 2:38; 10:45
- † He gives the *gift* of “his grace” Romans 3:24; Ephesians 3:7; 4:7
- † He gives the *gift* of “righteousness” Romans 5:17
- † He gives the *gift* of “eternal life” Romans 6:23
- † He gives the *gift* of “faith” Ephesians 2:8

1 Peter 4:10-11

“Freely you have received, freely give” Matthew 10:8 NASU

James 1:17

“Thanks be to God for his inexpressible gift!” 2 Corinthians 9:15

Romans 11:33-36

**v36 v37 v38**