

“COMFORTING THE LIVING AND WAKING THE DEAD”

Acts 20:1-12

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INTRODUCTION

Comforting the living, raising the dead—both spiritually and physically—such was the ministry of the Apostle Paul. Such should be our ministry with each other, comforting one another, preaching the Gospel and winning the lost.

We must be passionate about Biblical teaching and exhortation in our church. We also must not be so self focused that we don't stop to care for others' spiritual needs and growth.

YOU MUST RECEIVE EXHORTATION AND GIVE EXHORTATION TO OTHERS.

- I. EXHORTING THE BELIEVERS IN EPHESUS (V. 1)
- II. EXHORTING THE BELIEVERS IN MACEDONIA AND OTHER REGIONS (2)
Note “**much exhortation.**”
Visited all of his established churches—Philippi, Berea, Thessalonica, maybe even over in Western Macedonia into Illyricum (Rom. 15:19).
- III. EXHORTING AND MINISTERING IN CORINTH (3)
- IV. EXHORTING BY DEED—CARRYING A LOVE OFFERING TO JUDEAN BELIEVERS
 - A. The Need for the Offering—Poverty in Judea
 - B. The Caution in transporting the offering: honesty—multiple persons representing each of the regions; safety in travel and from robbery; widespread support from all the Gentile churches.
- V. EXHORTING AT PHILIPPI—Observed “Unleavened Bread”—“Resurrection Sunday” (6)
- VI. EXHORTING AT TROAS (5-12)
 - A. Extended stay to make up for the abbreviated one earlier—7 days
 - B. Gathering on the First Day of the Week (7)
 - C. Planning to observe the Lord's Supper and a common meal.
 - D. Preaching an extended “sermon” and “homily” (7, 11)
 - E. Listeners enraptured but weary (9)
- VII. EXHORTING (ENCOURAGING) BY RAISING UP THE YOUNG MAN (10)
 - A. Fell on him just like Elijah (I K. 17:21) and Elisha (II K. 4:32-35)
 - B. Stretched out on him and embraced him.
 - C. Pronounced him returned from life—“his life is in him.”
- VIII. EXHORTING BY BREAKING BREAD AND EATING (11)
- IX. EXHORTING BY A LONG TALK UNTIL DAYBREAK (11)
- X. GREAT ENCOURAGEMENT BY THE BOY'S LIFE (12)

CONCLUSION

How we need the encouragement and exhortation of the word of God

We must not forsake the assembling of ourselves together (Heb. 10:25)—but must “encourage one another even more so as the day approaches!

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