

¹⁶ Paul had decided to sail past Ephesus in order not to lose time in the province of Asia, for he was hurrying to be in Jerusalem, if at all possible, for the day of Pentecost.

Paul's Farewell Speech at Miletus.

¹⁷ From Miletus he had the presbyters of the church at Ephesus summoned.

¹⁸ When they came to him, he addressed them, "You know how I lived among you the whole time from the day I first came to the province of Asia.

²⁸ 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. ²⁹ I know that after my departure savage wolves will come among you, and they will not spare the flock. ³⁰ And from your own group, men will come forward perverting the truth to draw the disciples away after them. ³¹ So be vigilant and remember that for three years, night and day, I unceasingly admonished each of you with tears. ³² 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. ³³ I have

never wanted anyone's silver or gold or clothing. ³⁴ You know well that these very hands have served my needs and my companions. ³⁵ 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.'"

³⁶ When he had finished speaking he knelt down and prayed with them all.