

## **The Bible In The Church, part 2**

### **The Book of Acts, part 49 | Acts 20:25 – 38 | David Platt, MBC Interim Teaching Pastor & President of the IMB**

Acts 20:25 – 38

“And now, behold, I know that none of you among whom I have gone about proclaiming the kingdom will see my face again. Therefore I testify to you this day that I am innocent of the blood of all, for I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole counsel of God. Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood. I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them. Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish every one with tears. And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified. I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities and to those who were with me. In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’ And when he had said these things, he knelt down and prayed with them all. And there was much weeping on the part of all; they embraced Paul and kissed him, being sorrowful most of all because of the word he had spoken, that they would not see his face again. And they accompanied him to the ship.”

1. Because of what's at stake.

Acts 2:26 – 27

“Therefore I testify to you this day that I am innocent of the blood of all, for I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole counsel of God.”

Ezekiel 33:1 – 9

2 Corinthians 4:4 – 6

2. Because of who's in charge.

Acts 20:28

“Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood.”

3. Because of the threats to us.

Acts 20:29, “I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock.”

Acts 20:30

“... from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them.”

Acts 20:28, “Pay attention to yourselves . . .”

Acts 20:31, “Therefore, be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish every one with tears.”

4. Because of the promises for us.

Acts 20:32

“And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified.”

Joshua 1:8 – 9

Psalms 19:7 – 11

Psalms 119:105

Isaiah 40:1 – 31

John 1:1 – 14

Romans 10:17

Philippians 4:4 – 7

1 Peter 2:2

Joshua 1:5, “. . . I will be with you. I will never leave or forsake you.”

Proverbs 3:5 – 6

“Trust in me with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge me, and I will make your paths straight.”

James 1:5

“If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask me, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.”

Zephaniah 3:17, “I will take great delight in you, I will quiet you with my love, and I will rejoice over you with singing.”

Isaiah 43:1 – 4

“. . . Fear not, for I have redeemed you, I have called you by name, and you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you, when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you, when you walk through the fire . . .”

Isaiah 43:1 – 4

“. . . you will not be burned, the flames will not set you ablaze for I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior . . . you are precious and honored in my sight, and I love you.”

Romans 8:1 – 2

“There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because the law of the Spirit of life has set you free from the law of sin and death.”

Romans 8:15 – 17

“You did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, ‘Abba, Father.’ The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children.”

Romans 8:15 – 17

“Now if we are children, then we are heirs – heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.”

Romans 8:28

“. . . all things together for the good of those who love me, who have been called according to my purpose.”

Romans 8:31 – 32

“What then shall we say in response to this? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all, will He not also, along with Him, graciously give us all things?”

Romans 8:38 – 39

“Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation is able to separate you from my love in Christ Jesus.”

5. Because of the needs around us.