

Lesson IX.

JOURNEYING TO JERUSALEM

August 27, 1916

Acts 20 : 16-27. Study Acts 20 : 16-38. *Scripture Memory Verse, Luke 10 : 37.

Golden Text—I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace.—Acts 20 : 32.

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16 For Paul had determined to sail by Eph'esus, because he would not spend the time in A'sia : for he hasted, if it were possible for him, to be at Jeru'salem the day of Pen'tecost.

17 And from Mile'tus he sent to Eph'esus, and called the elders of the church.

18 And when they were come to him, he said unto them, Ye know, from the first day that I came into A'sia, after what manner I have been with you at all seasons,

19 Serving the Lord with all humility of mind, and with many tears, and temptations, which befell me by the lying in wait of the Jews :

20 And how I kept back nothing that was profitable unto you, but have shewed you, and have taught you publicly, and from house to house,

21 Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Je'sus Christ.

22 And now, behold, I go bound in the spirit unto Jeru'salem, not knowing the things that shall befall me there :

23 Save that the Holy Ghost witnesseth in every city, saying that bonds and afflictions abide me.

24 But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so

that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Je'sus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God.

25 And now, behold, I know that ye all, among whom I have gone preaching the kingdom of God, shall see my face no more.

26 Wherefore I take you to record this day, that I am pure from the blood of all men.

27 For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God.

THE LESSON RETOLD

A little ship was drawing near to a pretty seaport town called Miletus. On this ship we see one you have learned to know. Yes, it is Paul the missionary. Miletus was not very far from Ephesus. Of course all the boys and girls remember about the heathen city of Ephesus, and the goddess Diana, and Paul's telling the people it is wrong to pray to idols, and the riot which the imagemakers made against Paul !

Paul had been preaching in Ephesus for quite a long time, but after the riot his friends told him he had better go away from Ephesus, for they were afraid his enemies there might do him harm. So he went away and visited

some of the churches he had started in other places. Now he was on his way back to Jerusalem. Paul was taking with him the money which had been collected for the poor people in the church at Jerusalem.

Paul had sailed right past Ephesus because he had not time to make a visit there. He wanted to be in Jerusalem in time for the great harvest feast of thanksgiving, called the Feast of Pentecost. He was very glad when the captain told him that the ship would have to stay for a day or two at Miletus. Paul sent a messenger to Ephesus, and asked the elders of the church there to come to Miletus to see him. They were very glad

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