

¹³ After we went ahead to the boat, we went up to Assos. There we were going to pick Paul up, for he had ordered this and was going to Assos on foot. ¹⁴ When Paul came together with us in Assos, we picked him up and went into Mitylene. ¹⁵ Boating from there on the next day, we arrived opposite of Chios. On the next day we came along to Samos and on that same day we came to Miletus, ¹⁶ for Paul judged to boat past Ephesus, so as not to be delayed by time in the province of Asia. He was speeding to be in Jerusalem, if he was powerful enough, by the fiftieth day after Passover. ¹⁷ Sending from Miletus to Ephesus, Paul called the elders of the community. ¹⁸ When they came to him, Paul said to them,

“From the first day that I came upon the province of Asia, you yourselves are aware how I lived during that whole time with you, ¹⁹ slaving for the Lord with low status, tears, and tests which transpired against me in the plots of the Judeans. ²⁰ I held back nothing, while bringing together what was recounted to you. I taught you before the public and throughout the houses, ²¹ being a testimony to transformation towards the Creator and trust in our Lord Jesus—to both Judeans and Greeks.

²² Now look! Being bound by the Breath, I am going to Jerusalem not knowing the things I will be meeting in it, ²³ except what the Divine Breath is testifying to me about the city, saying that bindings and oppressions remain for me. ²⁴ I am doing nothing of value with my life except completing my course and the service which I received from the Lord Jesus—to be a testimony to the Gospel of the Creator’s generosity.

²⁵ Now look! I have discerned that all of you, among whom I came to proclaim the Rule of the Creator, will no longer see my face. ²⁶ Therefore, I am testifying to you on this day, today, that I am pure from all blood, ²⁷ for I did not hold back from recounting all the desires of the Creator to you. ²⁸ Be attentive to yourselves and to the whole flock in which the Divine Breath has put you, as watchers who shepherd the community of the Creator, which he has kept safe through his own blood. ²⁹ I perceive that burdensome wolves will come in among you after my exit, not sparing the flock. ³⁰ Men will stand up from among you, saying distorted things to draw the apprentices behind themselves. ³¹ Therefore, stay awake, remembering that night and day for three years I did not stop exhorting each one of you with tears.

³² Now I am entrusting you into the Creator’s hands and to the word of his generosity, which is able to build up and give the inheritance to all those who are divine. ³³ I wanted nothing—no silver, gold, or garments. ³⁴ You yourselves know that these hands attended to my needs and to those with me. ³⁵ I showed all things to you! Laboring, it is necessary to support those who are weak and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus that he himself said, ‘It is more privileged to give than to receive.’”

³⁶ After saying these things, Paul kneeled with all of them and prayed. ³⁷ Crying and falling upon the neck of Paul, they were befriending him, ³⁸ being especially distressed that they were about to no longer see his face.

Then they sent Paul on to the boat.

^{21.1} After withdrawing away from them, we made a straight course to Cos. Then on the next day we came to Rhodes and from there to Patara. ² After finding a boat going through to Phoenicia, we got upon it and headed out. ³ After the province of Cyprus appeared on the left and was left behind, we began boating to the province of Syria and came down into Tyre, for there the boat was unloading the cargo. ⁴ After finding the apprentices, we remained in Tyre seven days. During that time they began saying to Paul through the Breath,

“Do not go into Jerusalem!”

⁵ When our days were over there, we came out to leave and sent everyone with women and children ahead of us to the outside of the city. After kneeling upon the beach and praying, ⁶ we embraced one another. Then we got into the boat and they returned to their own. ⁷ After concluding our boating from Tyre, we arrived at Ptolemais and, embracing the brothers, we remained with them one day. ⁸ Coming out the next day, we went into Caesarea and, coming to the house of Philip (the declarer of the Gospel, who was one of the seven), we remained with him. ⁹ His four daughters were young women who were prophesying. ¹⁰ While we were remaining in Caesarea many days, a prophet named Agabus came down from Judea. ¹¹ After coming to us and taking the belt of Paul, he bound his own feet and hands and said,

“The Divine Breath is saying this, ‘This belt belongs to the man whom the Judeans will bind like this in Jerusalem and will give over to the hands of the nations.’”

¹² When we heard this, we and those in that place began exhorting Paul so he might not go up into Jerusalem. ¹³ Paul then answered,

“What are you doing, weeping and shattering my heart? For I am not only ready to be bound, but also to die in Jerusalem on behalf of the name of the Lord Jesus!”

¹⁴ Since Paul was not being persuaded by us, we did nothing, saying,

“Let the desires of the Lord happen!”

¹⁵ After these days, we packed up and began going up into Jerusalem. ¹⁶ Some of the apprentices from Caesarea also came with us, bringing us along so we would stay as the guests of Mnason from the province of Cyprus, an apprentice from the beginning.