

I. THE MISSIONARY

- A. Paul is completing his third missionary journey
 - 1. He goes to Macedonia and Greece
 - a. God places His providential hand over His missionaries
 - b. He does the same today – they go into dangerous lands
 - c. But they are safer there than anywhere else!
 - 2. Paul bids the Macedonian Christians a tender farewell (vs. 1)
 - 3. Paul exhorts and builds up the brethren wherever he goes!
 - a. At Philippi, Thessalonica, Berea – He encourages! (vs. 2)
 - b. What a testimony to have Christians stronger when you leave
 - c. Build UP! Never tear down the true faith of another!
 - d. New Christians – “You’ll calm down after a while...”
 - 4. Paul departs for Greece and stays for 3 months (vs. 2 & 3)
 - a. And then his enemies found him – the religious crowd
 - b. Wonder what the Gospel could do if it weren’t for the religious?
 - c. These were anti-God, anti-Christ religious zealots
- B. Paul changes his course and returns through Macedonia and then to Troas
 - 1. He has covered a lot of ground in these three years
 - 2. This is how we get the idea of a “term” for a missionary, by the way
 - 3. And then he heads on to Miletus (vs. 13-16)
 - a. He finds a ship to Assos
 - b. He walks about 20 miles by foot
 - c. The phrase “And the next day...” is used three times!
 - 4. Paul desired to be in Jerusalem by Pentecost
 - a. He wanted to be used to take the collect to the saints
 - b. He wanted to be a witness to them about what God had done!
 - c. His testimony for his people:
 - i. ROM. 9:1-3 – “I say the truth in Christ, I lie not, my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Ghost, (2) That I have great heaviness and continual sorrow in my heart. (3) For I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh:”
 - ii. Apostle to the Gentiles but a BURDEN for his people too!
 - iii. ROM. 10:1 – “Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved.”
 - d. Do we share a burden for OUR PEOPLE to be saved?
- C. There were 10 men who were his “Fellow Helpers” in the work
 - 1. Seven of them are named (vs. 4)
 - 2. But add in Luke, Silas, and Paul himself – 10 in total

- a. The kids sing a song “I’m a missionary helper”
 - b. Pray and Give and Go!
 - c. What about you?
3. All-in-all, an amazing story of God’s hand on a missionary’s life

II. THE MISFORTUNE

- A. It is at Troas where something AMAZING happens - Eutychus falls
 1. He was high in the THIRD story of the building
 2. The sleeper might fall inside but also might fall OUTSIDE
 3. He was lulled to sleep by what had become “commonplace” in his life
- B. Luke was a medical doctor and pronounced Eutychus dead
 1. There is no doubt as to the diagnosis
 2. People were used to seeing death in those days, they knew what it was
 - a. Today people INSULATE themselves from death
 - b. Few will even attend a funeral
 - c. They don’t want to THINK about dying and eternity
 - d. HEB. 9:27 – “And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:”
- C. The young people are the STRENGTH of a church
 1. Older saints should be the wisdom and maturity
 2. But younger saints make a church VIBRANT and ACTIVE

III. THE MIRACLE

- A. Paul MOVED to help – He didn’t just look on and “trust science”
 1. Prayer moves mountains and can toss them into the sea
 2. MATT. 21:21 – “Jesus answered and said unto them, Verily I say unto you, If ye have faith, and doubt not, ye shall not only do this which is done to the fig tree, but also if ye shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; it shall be done.”
- B. This one of the few resurrections recorded in the Scripture by name
 1. Many examples in Scripture:
 - a. Elijah was used to raise the widow’s son in 1 KINGS 17:21
 - b. Elisha was used to raise the Shunammite’s son in 2 KINGS 4:35
 - c. Peter was used to raise Dorcas in ACTS 9:40
 - d. Jesus raised the daughter of Jairus in LUKE 8:55
 - e. Jesus raised Lazarus in JOHN 11:43
 2. And of course, Jesus raised HIMSELF from the dead
 - a. ACTS 3:15 – “And killed the Prince of life, whom God hath raised from the dead; whereof we are witnesses.”
 - b. And we ARE witnesses of that miracle!
 - c. If you are Saved here today, you KNOW He’s alive
 3. Baptism itself DEMONSTRATES His resurrection

4. 1 PETER 1:3 – “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,”
 5. WHAT A BLESSING! To be planning a meal rather than a funeral! (vs. 11)
- C. There are things only GOD can do
1. God often takes things expressly OUT of our hands to prove to us
 - a. That we can’t do it and that He CAN do it
 2. When the daughter of Jairus died they said “trouble not the Master”
 - a. But Jesus DISAGREED!
 - b. MARK 5:36 – “As soon as Jesus heard the word that was spoken, he saith unto the ruler of the synagogue, Be not afraid, only believe.”
 - c. Don’t fret! Don’t worry! Don’t withdraw from the battle!
 - d. BELIEVE! TRUST! OBEY!
 3. What will you do when God takes you out of the driver’s seat?
 - a. Or do you realize that you never were IN the driver’s seat?
 - b. MATT. 11:29 – “Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.”
 - c. If it’s HIS yoke, then He is there WITH us
 - i. Yoke by definition means TWO (not a collar)
 - ii. It’s a BOND of connection (Webster’s 1828)
 - iii. If we are in the yoke with Jesus, then HE is doing the work!
 - d. Are we the toddler in the car seat with toy steering wheel?
 - e. Who’s driving this life, anyway?

IV. THE MESSAGE

- A. Don’t be weary in well doing
1. Bible tells us TWICE: GAL. 6:9 – “And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.” (Also 2 THESS. 3:13)
 - a. Do not FAINT (WEBSTER’S 1828) – “To become feeble; to decline or fail in strength and vigor; to be weak.”
 - b. MARK 8:3 – “And if I send them away fasting to their own houses, they will faint by the way: for divers of them came from far.”
 - c. Same word. INSENSIBLE. “To lose animal functions...”
 2. Many preachers preach about the lack of hearing
 - a. And maybe we have a dangerous DEAFNESS
 - b. AMOS 8:11 – “Behold, the days come, saith the Lord GOD, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the LORD:”
 - c. Just because we are sitting under preaching doesn’t MATTER
 - i. “To sink into dejection; to lose courage or spirit.”
 - ii. DEAFNESS leads to Dejection
 3. Is it EXCITING or a CHORE to serve God?

- B. Don't fall asleep
 - 1. Those that ARE asleep need to WAKE up
 - a. Those that have FALLEN need to GET up
 - b. Those that are INJURED need to HEAL up
 - 2. The word sleep is a special word in the New Testament
 - a. 1 COR. 15:6 – “After that, he was seen of above five hundred brethren at once; of whom the greater part remain unto this present, but some are fallen asleep.”
 - i. Meaning that they are SAFE in the arms of the Savior
 - ii. Waiting! Expecting! But expecting what?
 - b. 1 THESS. 4:16-17 – “For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: (17) Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.”
 - 3. Those that are asleep need REVIVAL, or they might fall!
 - a. A lack of revival in your life is a VERY dangerous thing!
 - b. You are balanced precariously on the edge of damage or demise
 - c. Don't be a broken tool! (buried in the bottom of the toolbox)
- C. Wake up and break bread with the brethren
 - 1. Those that get revival are excited to FELLOWSHIP (vs. 11)
 - 2. Revived saints are a COMFORT to everyone! (vs. 12)

V. THE MEASURE

- A. Have you fallen asleep in the work of the Lord?
 - 1. Be careful! Those who have been lulled to sleep might fall!
 - 2. Wake up! Pinch yourself! Are you same today as you were last year?
 - 3. Are you CLOSER to God or FURTHER AWAY?
- B. Does your life in Christ seem dead and dull?
 - 1. He is the Way, the Truth, and the LIFE
 - a. If you're feeling DISTANT, He is the WAY!
 - b. If you're feeling GRAY, He is the TRUTH!
 - c. If you're feeling NUMB, He is the LIFE!
 - 2. He didn't go ANYWHERE – He never changes!
 - a. Yesterday, today, forever, Jesus is the same
 - b. So, if I am not close to Him, I am the one who moved
 - c. Don't treat God like a stranger!
 - 3. He is only a step away!
 - a. No matter how far you've gone into the far country
 - b. The father is waiting with open arms for your return
 - c. Re-turn to Him – means “turn again” - No works, just repent!
- C. If you're not saved, you don't have a Heavenly Father - Be saved today!