



CHAPTER 30 – PAUL’S FINAL DAYS

DISCUSSION OF GENERAL QUESTIONS

- ❶ What is God saying?
- ❷ For what does this section lead me to give thanks? (See God’s grace and promises!)
- ❸ What sins does this section lead me to confess? (See God’s expectations for his people)
- ❹ For what does this section lead me to pray? (As you ponder the Word, what needs of heart and life for yourself and others come to mind? Consider every word you read as an invitation to turn it into a prayer you speak back to your Lord!)

Key Events: The missionary journey of the Apostle Paul, excerpts from Paul’s epistles.

DIGGING IN

- 1) As Paul made his way to Jerusalem he stopped at Miletus and met with the elders (pastors) from Ephesus. He instructed them, “Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which he bought with his own blood.” (pg 440) Why would Paul instruct these pastors to keep watch over themselves first? How does a pastor do that?
- 2) Paul was determined to go to Jerusalem in spite of the warnings that he had received about his impending arrest and imprisonment. Why was he so determined? Why can Christians live without fear?

- 3) Throughout The Story, we have seen evidence of God's sovereignty (his power and authority). Give examples from Paul's ordeals in this chapter that demonstrate God's control to achieve his purpose.

- 4) Even in prison in Rome Paul continued his work as an apostle by writing letters to various Christian churches. Read Ephesians chapter 1 (page 452 starting at "Paul, as apostle of Christ...") through the first full paragraph of page 453). Where did Paul find his greatest joy? What was his most urgent prayer as he sat in prison?

- 5) Describe the meaning and significance of these underlined words and phrases.
"But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work."
(pages 457-458; 2 Timothy 3:14-17)

- 6) Near the end of his life, Paul wrote, "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness." (page 458; 2 Timothy 4:7-8) Explain the nature of Christian boasting found in these words.

- 7) Paul was the author of at least 13 of the 27 books in the New Testament. How does knowing more about his biography and life help you appreciate the words of his letters which we still have and read today?

Chapter 31: The End of Time

Bible Reference: Revelation 1-5; 19-22