

# Acts 20:19

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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:

## Analysis

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'Serving the Lord with all humility of mind, and with many tears, and temptations.' Three characteristics mark Paul's ministry: humility, compassion (tears), and perseverance through trials. 'The lying in wait of the Jews' added constant danger.

## Historical Context

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Jewish opposition in Ephesus is documented in Acts 19:33. Paul's emotional investment ('tears') shows pastoral heart beyond merely professional ministry.

## Related Passages

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**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

## Study Questions

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1. How do humility, compassion, and perseverance characterize authentic ministry?
2. What do Paul's tears reveal about emotional investment in pastoral work?

## Interlinear Text

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δουλεύων	τῶν	κυρίῳ	μετὰ	πάσης	ταπεινοφροσύνης	καὶ
<b>Serving</b>	<b>which</b>	<b>the Lord</b>	<b>with</b>	<b>all</b>	<b>humility of mind</b>	<b>and</b>
G1398	G3588	G2962	G3326	G3956	G5012	G2532
πολλῶν	δακρύων	καὶ	πειρασμῶν	τῶν	συμβάντων	μοι
<b>with many</b>	<b>tears</b>	<b>and</b>	<b>temptations</b>	<b>which</b>	<b>befell</b>	<b>me</b>
G4183	G1144	G2532	G3986	G3588	G4819	G3427
ἐν	τῶν	ἐπιβουλαῖς	τῶν	Ἰουδαίων		
<b>by</b>	<b>which</b>	<b>the lying in wait</b>	<b>which</b>	<b>of the Jews</b>		
G1722	G3588	G1917	G3588	G2453		

## Additional Cross-References

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**2 Corinthians 2:4** (Parallel theme): For out of much affliction and anguish of heart I wrote unto you with many tears; not that ye should be grieved, but that ye might know the love which I have more abundantly unto you.

**Acts 20:3** (Parallel theme): And there abode three months. And when the Jews laid wait for him, as he was about to sail into Syria, he purposed to return through Macedonia.

**Colossians 3:24** (References Lord): Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ.

**Jeremiah 13:17** (References Lord): But if ye will not hear it, my soul shall weep in secret places for your pride; and mine eye shall weep sore, and run down with tears, because the LORD'S flock is carried away captive.

**Romans 12:11** (References Lord): Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord;

**Acts 20:31** (Parallel theme): Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears.

**2 Corinthians 7:5** (Parallel theme): For, when we were come into Macedonia, our flesh had no rest, but we were troubled on every side; without were fightings, within were fears.

**James 1:2** (Parallel theme): My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations;

**Philippians 3:18** (Parallel theme): (For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ:

**Acts 27:23** (Parallel theme): For there stood by me this night the angel of God, whose I am, and whom I serve,

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