

Acts 20:31

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears.

Analysis

'Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears.' Paul's emotional investment over three years modeled pastoral vigilance. 'Night and day with tears' shows constant, compassionate care.

Historical Context

Three years of sustained, emotional ministry established the pattern elders should continue. Paul's tears demonstrated genuine love underlying his warnings.

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. What does 'night and day with tears' reveal about authentic pastoral care?
2. How does remembering faithful ministry inspire continued vigilance?

Interlinear Text

διὸ	γρηγορεῖτε	μνημονεύοντες	ὅτι	τριετίαν
Therefore	watch	and remember	that	by the space of three years
G1352	G1127	G3421	G3754	G5148
νύκτα	καὶ	ἡμέραν	οὐκ	ἐπαυσάμην
night	and	day	not	I ceased
G3571	G2532	G2250	G3756	G3973
μετὰ	δακρύων			
with	tears			
G3326	G1144			
νουθετῶν	ἕνα	ἔκαστον		
to warn	one	every		
G3560	G1520	G1538		

Additional Cross-References

Acts 19:10 (Parallel theme): And this continued by the space of two years; so that all they which dwelt in Asia heard the word of the Lord Jesus, both Jews and Greeks.

Acts 19:8 (Parallel theme): And he went into the synagogue, and spake boldly for the space of three months, disputing and persuading the things concerning the kingdom of God.

Hebrews 13:17 (Parallel theme): Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.

Acts 20:19 (Parallel theme): 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:

Colossians 1:28 (Parallel theme): Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus:

Matthew 13:25 (Parallel theme): But while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went his way.

Luke 21:36 (Parallel theme): Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.

2 Timothy 4:5 (Parallel theme): But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry.

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