

# Acts 20:38

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Sorrowing most of all for the words which he spake, that they should see his face no more. And they accompanied him unto the ship.

## Analysis

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'Sorrowing most of all for the words which he spake, that they should see his face no more.' The finality of departure intensified grief. Loss of face-to-face relationship, not merely Paul's suffering, caused deepest sorrow. Presence matters in pastoral care.

## Historical Context

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Whether Paul ever saw these elders again is uncertain. The anticipated permanent separation deepened the farewell's emotional weight.

## Related Passages

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**James 2:17** — Faith and works

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

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

## Study Questions

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1. What does grief over losing face-to-face presence teach about ministry relationships?
2. How do you prepare for final farewells in ministry?

## Interlinear Text

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ὁδυνώμενοι    μάλιστα    ἐπὶ    τῷ    λόγῳ    ᾧ    εἰρήκει    ὅτι  
**Sorrowing**    **most of all**    **for**    G3588    **the words**    **which**    **he spake**    **that**  
G3600    G3122    G1909    G3056    G3739    G2046    G3754

οὐκέτι    μέλλουσιν    τὸ    πρόσωπον    αὐτὸν    θεωρεῖν  
**no more**    **they should**    G3588    **face**    **him**    **see**  
G3765    G3195    G4383    G846    G2334

προέπεμπον    δὲ    αὐτὸν    εἰς    τὸ    πλοῖον  
**they accompanied**    **And**    **him**    **unto**    G3588    **the ship**  
G4311    G1161    G846    G1519    G4143

## Additional Cross-References

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**Acts 15:3** (Parallel theme): And being brought on their way by the church, they passed through Phenice and Samaria, declaring the conversion of the Gentiles: and they caused great joy unto all the brethren.

**Acts 20:25** (Parallel theme): And now, behold, I know that ye all, among whom I have gone preaching the kingdom of God, shall see my face no more.