



ACTS

UNHINDERED

Acts 20



Acts 20:1-38

“UN-FINISHED”

*How do we respond to the “unfinished”
nature of the mission of the church?*

“UN-FINISHED”

ACTS

1. On the way to Jerusalem with Others – 20:1-6

“Sopater the Berean, son of Pyrrhus accompanied him; and ...”

2. Reminders of Resurrection – 20:7-16

“and they took the youth away alive, and were not a little comforted”

3. Encouraging Elders from Ephesus – 20:17-38

“to care for the church of God which he obtained with his own blood”

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1. On the way to Jerusalem with Others – 20:1-6

“Sopater the Berean, son of Pyrrhus accompanied him; and ...”

Journey is More than Just Paul

Associates from All Over

On-going Mission of the Church Together

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“Now after these events Paul resolved in the Spirit to pass through Macedonia and Achaia and go to Jerusalem, saying, “After I have been there, I must also see Rome.” And having sent into Macedonia two of his helpers, Timothy and Erastus, he himself stayed in Asia for a while.”

- Acts 19:21-22

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“so that from Jerusalem and all the way around to Illyricum I have fulfilled the ministry of the gospel of Christ;

“I hope to see you in passing as I go to Spain, and to be helped on my journey there by you, once I have enjoyed your company for a while. At present, however, I am going to Jerusalem bringing aid to the saints. For Macedonia and Achaia have been pleased to make some contribution for the poor among the saints at Jerusalem.”

- Romans 15:19, 24-26

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“Thus, Macedonia was represented by Sopater (Berea), Aristarchus and Secundus (Thessalonica) and perhaps Luke himself (Philippi); Galatia by Gaius (Derbe) and Timothy (Lystra); and Asia by Tychicus and Trophimus (Ephesus). Achaia is missing, but could have been represented by Paul himself, and/or by Titus, who according to Ramsay’s conjecture was a relative of Luke’s. This would mean that Paul’s entourage consisted of at least nine men.”

- John Stott

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2. Reminders of Resurrection – 20:7-16

“and they took the youth away alive, and were not a little comforted”

First Day of the Week - teaching until midnight

Interruption of Death ... and Resurrection

Continued teaching until daybreak

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Paul Not Holding Back

Elders Not Holding Back

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“There is no biblical warrant either for the one-man-band (a single pastor playing all the instruments of the orchestra himself) or for a hierarchical or pyramidal structure in the local church (a single pastor perched at the apex of the pyramid). It is not even clear that each of the elders was in charge of an individual house-church. It is better to think of them as a team, some perhaps with the oversight of house-churches, but others with specialist ministries according to their gifts, and all sharing the pastoral care of Christ’s flock. We need today to recover this concept of a pastoral team in the church.”

- John Stott

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3. Encouraging Elders from Ephesus – 20:17-38

“to care for the church of God which he obtained with his own blood”

Paul Not Holding Back

Elders Not Holding Back

God Not Holding Back

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“Oh then, let us hear these arguments of Christ, whenever we feel ourselves grow dull and careless: ‘Did I die for them, and wilt not thou look after them? Were they worth my blood and are they not worth thy labour? Did I come down from heaven to earth, to seek and to save that which was lost; and wilt thou not go to the next door or street or village to seek them? How small is thy labour and condescension as to mine? I debased myself to this, but it is thy honour to be so employed. Have I done and suffered so much for their salvation; and was I willing to make thee a co-worker with me, and wilt thou refuse that little that lieth upon thy hands?’”

- Richard Baxter

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