

## **A Tearful Farewell**

Text: Acts 20:36-38

### **Introduction:**

We come now to the end of Paul's exhortation to the Ephesian elders, to witness their tearful farewell.

### **I. A Tearful Farewell**

"And when he had said these things, he knelt down and prayed with them all" (vs. 36).

Question #1: What did Paul do after he finished speaking with them? Describe the posture that Paul took when he prayed. Why might he have done this? Is there a place for this in our own practice today?

"Then they all wept freely, and fell on Paul's neck and kissed him..." (vs. 37).

Question #2: What does this response of the Ephesian elders tell you about the way in which Paul had ministered among them? What does this say about the things that Paul had stated throughout this discourse, concerning his own integrity, example, witness...etc?

"...sorrowing most of all for the words which he spoke, that they would see his face no more. And they accompanied him to the ship" (vs. 38).

Question #3: In all that Paul spoke, what brought the most sorrow to the hearts of these men? What does this tell you about the quality of love that existed between them and Paul? [David and Jonathan]

Question #4: Looking at the whole exhortation, are there any final big picture thoughts or principals that we can draw from the whole text?