

Embrace  
Holy  
Living

# RE- FLECTING GOD

**08/06/16 - Be On Guard!**

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Acts 20:22-38

Thea and her husband make regular trips to a park that is a natural fit for him, since he played basketball in college; Thea prefers to strike up conversations on the bench. However, one evening I got recruited to play with some young men taller and more skilled than I am. Much to my surprise, I scored a few points, but felt my greatest contribution was guarding other players.

There are inevitably situations which put us at ease and people with whom we let our guard down. Paul likely lowered his guard with the Ephesian elders he addressed in Acts 20. His words carried a tremendous weight, not merely because he told them it would be the last time they would see them, but because of their mutual love and respect.

Although the Holy Spirit had revealed to Paul some of the trials which awaited him, he couldn't be sure of what his friends would face. He was convinced, however, that it was imperative for them to be on guard against those who would try to alter the truth of the gospel. We, too, must be diligent in guarding the truth of Christ which has been planted in us.

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