

Built Up To Build The Church

Description

[RG Audio 051122](#)

Acts 20:32-38

While traveling from Philippi to Troas, Paul's ship stopped at Miletus to unload and receive cargo. Taking advantage of his time there, Paul invited the leaders of the church at Ephesus to travel thirty miles to Miletus to meet with him.

Preaching a pastoral message to these elders, the apostle closed with a warning of dangers around them (v. 29). Calling them "savage wolves," he was referring to false teachers, counterfeit believers, who had crept into the church. He also warned of dangers among them (v. 30).

Finally, Paul warned of dangers within them. He mentions five dangerous sins that can easily emerge in the lives of godly church leaders: carelessness, shallowness, covetousness, laziness, and selfishness (vv. 31-35).

Warren Wiersbe wrote, "We cannot build the church unless God is building our lives daily" (*The Bible Exposition Commentary*). As individual Christians, we are to grow spiritually and mature in the faith. In turn, God will bless the Church. For this reason, Paul commits the Ephesian elders to the Lord and to His Word.

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