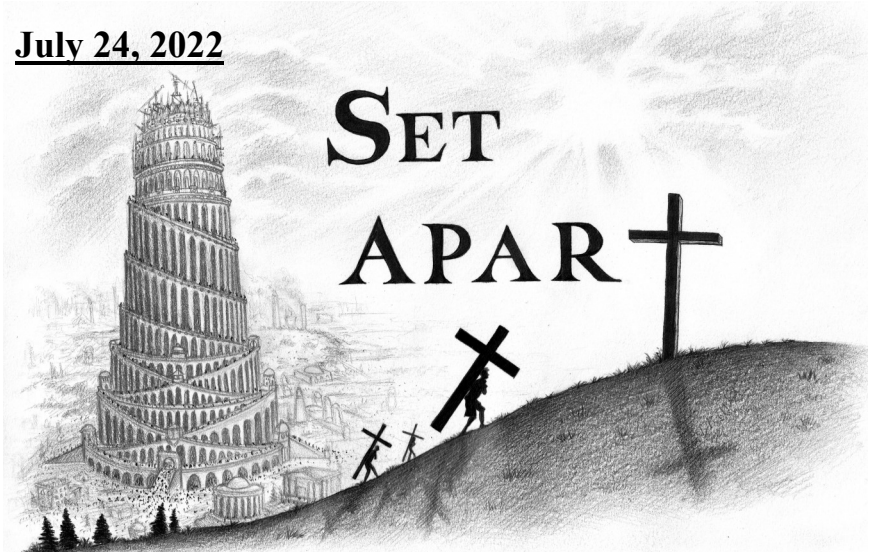


July 24, 2022



Do we love the church?

Acts 20:17-38

- 1) Loving the church means persevering through trials with tears.
- 2) Loving the church means humbly sharing and receiving hard truths.
- 3) Loving the church means recognizing the value of each member.
- 4) Loving the church means struggling with wolves.
- 5) Loving the church means working towards intimacy with God and people.

Memory Verses

2 Timothy 2:21 ... *"Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from what is dishonorable, he will be a vessel for honorable use, set apart as holy, useful to the master of the house, ready for every good work."*

1 Peter 2:9–12 ... *"But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation."*

Scripture to Pray

Colossians 1:24–25

"Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am filling up what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church, of which I became a minister according to the stewardship from God that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known,"

Live the Word

- 1) Why is the church worth loving?
- 2) In what ways am I loving the church?
- 3) What circumstances or situations tempt me away from loving the church?
- 4) What is one step I can take to love the church more fully?