

# Sermon Handout

## Sleeping Through the Sermon

### Acts 20:7-12

#### I. The Church in Troas

- a. A major port connection with Macedonia Acts 16:11*f*
- b. Paul's two brief visits Acts 16:8-11; II Cor 2:12-13
- c. Perhaps Luke & Lydia involved in planting it
- d. Meeting on Sunday for worship v. 7a *cf.* Jn 20:19, 26; I Cor 16:2  
“to break bread” here, clearly means the sacrament *cf.* v. 11
- e. Gathered to hear as much of Paul's teaching as possible v. 7b

#### II. Eutychus and his accident

- a. Details typical of “we” portions of Acts (chapters 16, 20, 21, 28)
- b. Eutychus himself v. 9a
  - i. A young man, probably less than 20
  - ii. A loved member of the congregation *cf.* v. 12b
- c. The torches v. 8
- d. The fall to his death (from the third floor) v. 9b
- e. Luke, the doctor, says he was dead v. 9b
- f. Eutychus went home alive after the meeting v. 12a

#### III. Paul's actions and delayed departure

- a. Paul follows the crowd down to Eutychus' body v. 10 (*cf.* 9b)
- b. “fell upon him and put his arms around him” and healed him  
*See* Mt 9:34; I Kg 17:17-24; II Kg 4:32-37
- c. Went back upstairs to celebrate Eucharist v. 11a
- d. Afterwards, the congregation had a meal and Paul ate with them v. 11b
- e. Continued to teach them until dawn v. 11c
- f. Then stays behind when the ship leaves v. 13

#### IV. Lessons for the Church

- a. Take comfort in the ancient practice of the church on the Lord's Day.
- b. Instruction in the Word is worthy of the time spent on it.  
When we have opportunity, we should avail ourselves of it.
- c. Sometimes the most difficult situations lead to great rejoicing.