

YMWELIAD OLAF PAUL Â TROAS.

Emyn: 400 'Iesu yw'r lôr!'

Darlleniad: Actau 20:1-16.

A. CYD-WEITHWYR AR Y DAITH!

Yn dilyn y cynnwrf yn Effesus rhaid oedd i Paul ymadael, ond cyn gadael, dyma ef yn annog y disgyblion yno. Teithiodd i Macedonia, gan annog mwy o ddisgyblion ar y ffordd, cyn treulio tri mis yng ngwlad Groeg. Daeth yr amser iddo hwylio nôl i Syria. Anaml y buasai Paul yn teithio ar ben ei hun ac roedd ganddo gwmni saith o gyd-deithwyr ar y ffordd i Syria. **Sopater** o Berea, y Thesalonaid **Aristarchus** a **Secwndus, Gaius** o Derbe, **Timotheus** o Lystra a'r Asiaid **Tychicus** a **Troffimus**. Roedd y saith wedi dod o gefndiroedd gwahanol gan ddangos bod yr efengyl wedi ymledu i bobl o wahanol genhedloedd. **Onid dyna ddylai'r eglwys fod heddiw?** Pobl o gefndiroedd a doniau gwahanol yn annog ei gilydd ac yn cydweithio i gefnogi gwaith Duw.

B. CYMUN YN TROAS.

Yn adnod saith ceir cofnod o addoliad yn amser Paul. 'Ar ddydd cyntaf yr wythnos, daethom ynghyd i dorri bara.

Dechreuodd Paul, ... eu hannerch,' 7. Pa nodweddion oedd i'r oedfa? i) 'Ar ddydd cyntaf yr wythnos.' Gwnaeth yr eglwys yn Troas gyfarfod ar y Saboth Dydd yr Arglwydd. Mae'r Gorchymyn yn galw, '*Cofia'r dydd Saboth, i'w gadw'n gysegredig.'* Gydag atgyfodiad Iesu, y Sul bellach oedd y dydd cyntaf! **A wnawn gadw'r Sul yn sanctaidd?** ii) '*Daethom ynghyd.'* Dyma egwyddor bwysig. Mae galw ar bobl yr Arglwydd i ddod ynghyd. Nid mater o gyfleustra yw cyd-addoli ond gofyn hanfodol os am dyfu yn y Ffydd. '*Gadewch inni ystyried sut y gallwn ennyn yn ein gilydd gariad a gweithredoedd da, heb gefnu ar ein cydgynulliad ein hunain, yn ôl arfer rhai, ond annog ein gilydd,'* Hebreaid 10. Pan mae gwir gariad at Dduw mae 'na reidrwydd i fynd i'w addoli. Pan mae gwir gariad at bobl Dduw ceir gwir ddyhead am eu cwmni. iii) '*I dorri bara.'* Daeth y credinwyr ynghyd i ddathlu Swper yr Arglwydd, a hynny'n wythnosol. Yn amser Paul mi fuasai wedi bod yn rhan o bryd bwyd cymdeithasol. iv) '*Dechreuodd Paul ... eu hannerch.'* Rhan bwysig o'r cyfarfod a'r torri bara oedd cyhoeddi'r Gair. Mae'n debyg i Paul gychwyn cyhoeddi gyda machlud haul a pharhau hyd ganol nos! Hanfodion pwysig yr eglwys fore oedd, parchu'r Sul, dod ynghyd i addoli, cadw Swper yr Arglwydd a chyhoeddi'r Gair.

C. CWYMP MARWOL!

Roedd Paul yn rhannu'r efengyl yn Troas, mewn oruwchystafell a oedd yn llawn o lampau. Gwnaeth dyn ifanc o'r enw Eutychus a oedd yn eistedd wrth y ffenestr syrthio i gysgu a chwmpo o'r trydydd llawr i'r ddaear. Roedd 'yn gorff marw.' **Beth wnawn ddysgu o'r hanes rhyfedd hwn?**

i) Pam y digwyddodd hyn i ddyn ifanc a oedd wedi dod i wrando ar gyhoeddiad y Gair? Nid oes neb yn rhydd o boenau'r byd na dioddefiadau annisgwyl. Nid yw Duw wedi addo bywyd hawdd i neb ar y ddaear; Ei addewid yw bod gyda'i bobl ymhob angen. ii) Ni wnaeth Eutychus brofi marwolaeth o ganlyniad i ryw bechod a wnaeth gyflawni sef syrthio i gysgu wrth wrando ar ddyn Duw yn cyhoeddi. Mae'n debyg bod Eutychus rhwng 8 a 14 oed, felly gan fod yr oedfa wedi mynd ymlaen mor hwyr, nid oedd syndod iddo syrthio i gysgu. iii) Yn y cyfan oll gwelwn Dduw ar waith eto, trwy ei was Paul. *'Aeth Paul i lawr; syrthiodd arno a'i gofleidio, a dywedodd, "Peidiwch â chynhyrfu; y mae bywyd ynddo,"* 10. Mae'r gair yn eglur. Bu farw Eutychus ac fe ddaeth yn ôl yn fyw! Roedd yn gyfnod arbennig, gyda'r apostolion yn medru cyflawni gwyrthiau rhyfeddol yn enw'r Arglwydd. Cyflawnwyd hyn

er mewn dangos mawredd Duw ac i nerthu cyhoeddiad y Gair, i gefnogi cenhadaeth Paul a'i debyg.

Beth wnaeth Paul wedi adfer bywyd Eutychus? Aeth nôl i'r oruwchystafell a gweinyddu Swper yr Arglwydd a pharhau i 'ymddiddan hyd doriad gwawr.' Dangosodd Duw ei ofal am y corfforol (bywyd Eutychus) ond roedd ganddo hefyd gonsyrn am yr ysbrydol (eneidiau'r gwrandawyr). Roedd am adfer bywydau yn ysbrydol gan roi bywyd bythol i'r sawl oedd yn gwrando ar Paul. Mae galw ar yr eglwys i ofalu am angen corfforol ac ysbrydol pobl!

Gwersi i'w dysgu: a) Pwysigrwydd cyd-weithio o fewn yr eglwys. b) Pwysigrwydd mynd i oedfaon. c) Gofal yr eglwys dros y corfforol ac yn arbennig yr ysbrydol.

Gwedd: O Dad Nefol, diolch am yr eglwys leol ble y gallwn mwynhau cwmni ein gilydd ond hefyd dy addoli Di. Pan wnawn ystyried cymaint yr wyt yn ein bendithio a'n caru, dylwn fod yn fwy parod i ddarllen y Beibl, gweddïo arnat, mynd i oedfaon a gweithgareddau'r eglwys a chofio am dy bobl. Gwyddom hefyd, o ganlyniad i'r pandemig, nad yw hyn wedi bod yn bosib i bawb yn ddiweddar, felly gweddïwn ar i bethau wella'n fwy eto, fel y bydd eraill yn medru dychwelyd i'r capel. Diolch am dy ofal cyson drosom a'n hanwyliaid. Yn enw Iesu Mawr, Amen.

PAUL'S LAST VISIT WITH TROAS.

Hymn: 888 *'Jesus is Lord!'*

Reading: Acts 20:1-16.

A. COWORKERS WITH PAUL.

After the riot at Ephesus, Paul called for the disciples and encouraged them, before moving on. He travelled to Macedonia, and encouraged fellow disciples as he went along, before arriving in Greece, where he was to spend three months. The time came for him to return to Syria, but he did not travel alone. He was accompanied by **Sopater** of Berea, the Thessalonians **Aristarchus** and **Secundus**, **Gaius** from Derbe, **Timothy** and the Asians **Tychicus** and **Trophimus**. The fact that the seven came from various regions showed how the gospel had also travelled to new lands. **Is this not how the church should be?** People from different backgrounds and abilities uniting and encouraging one another in the work of the Lord.

B. COMMUNION IN TROAS.

In verse 7 we read of a church service during the time of Paul. *'On the first day of the week, when we were gathered together to break bread, Paul talked with them.'*

What were the attributes of this service? i) *'On the first day.'*

The church at Troas gathered on the Sabbath, the Lord's Day. The command declared, *'Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.'* With Jesus' resurrection, the Sunday was now the first day. **Do we consider Sunday to be holy?**

ii) *'We were gathered together.'* The Lord called his people 'to gather together. Worshipping together was not an optional extra for Paul but a necessity if the people were to grow in faith. *'Let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another,'* Hebrews 10:24. When people truly love God, they must worship to Him. When people love fellow brothers and sisters in the Lord, they desire to meet together. iii) *'To break bread.'* The believers at Troas came together to celebrate the Lord's Supper, on a weekly basis. In Paul's time it would have been a part of a community / love feast. iv) *'Paul talked with them.'* An important part of the Lord's Supper was the proclamation of God's word. It appears that Paul began at sunset and continued until midnight! Therefore, important features of the early church were: respect for the Sunday, coming together to worship, the Lord's Supper and the proclamation of God's word.

C. A DEATHLY FALL!

Paul shared the gospel in Troas, in an upper room of a house that was filled with many lamps. A young man by the name of Eutychus, who was seated by a window, was overcome by sleep and fell from the third storey. When they picked him up, he was dead! **What do we learn from this strange account?**

i) Why had such a terrible thing happened to a young man who was listening to God's word being proclaimed? No one is free from the pains of the world or unexpected suffering. God has not promised a trouble free life to anyone while on earth; however He has promised to be with his children in each and every situation. ii) Eutychus did not experience death as a result of some sin he had committed, that is, from falling asleep during a sermon! It appears that he was between 8 and 14 years old, therefore, considering that the service continued till midnight, there was no blame on him for falling asleep. iii) Once again, we see God at work through his servant Paul. *'Paul went down and bent over him, and taking him in his arms said, "Do not be alarmed. He is alive!"* 10. Eutychus had died but was raised to life once again. This

was a special time for the apostles, for they were able to perform wonderful miracles in the Lord's name.

What did Paul do next? He continued with his ministry. He returned to the upper room and offered the Lord's Supper to the people present and continued to talk with them until daybreak! God had revealed His care for the physical (Eutychus' life) but He also desired that those present would know of the spiritual and the need for their souls to be saved. Today, the church is called to care for a person's physical needs, but also to meet spiritual needs!

Lessons to be learnt: a) The importance of working together within the church. b) The importance of gathering together as God's people. c) God cares for a person's spiritual needs as well as the physical.

PRAYER: Heavenly Father, thank you for the local chapel where we can enjoy the company of one another, but also come together to worship You. When we consider all that you have done for us, we should give more time to your things, the Bible, prayer and fellowship with one another. During the last year there have been times when we were unable to gather together. With the easing of restrictions may we grasp every opportunity to come together, in Jesus' name. Amen.

