

## Lesson 47 Answers and Comments

Correction add II Tim. 2:22 top of page and I Tim. 4:1 should be 4:1

With	named	longed	patient
Call	evil	greatly	meekness
Rich	stripes	long	instructing
Call	prisons	you	oppose
Him	deaths	all	
Sweet	trouble	pure	
Savor	you	heart	
Christ	all	depart	
Saved	godly	faith	
Perish	shall	flesh	
Savor	suffer	flesh	
Death	persecution	carnally	
Death	given	minded	
Savor	suffer	death	
Life	sake	spiritually	
Life	ambassadors	life	
World	beseech	peace	
Hate	by	overtaken	
Hated	us	fault	
Hated	reconciled	spiritual	
Men	course	restore	
Hate	world	strive	
Separate	now	gentle	
Company	children	all	
Reproach	disobedience	teach	

We've seen God's instruction to flee youthful lusts and to follow after godliness with those who are saved and sincerely love the Lord. I Cor. 15:33 "Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners." There were those at Corinth who said that "there is no resurrection of the dead." This led to a sinful lifestyle. Paul warns against association with these carnal believers because sin is easily spread. Make wise choices in your youth!

Lesson 48

Is anything bothering you? Is your nose too big? Your legs too long? Your mind too weak? Your personality too boring? We all have things in our life that we sometimes focus on that cause us great distress.

The Apostle Paul had just such a situation. In II Cor. 12:7-10 we read that Paul was given a \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_ in vs. 7. Paul, the receiver of the revelation of the mystery, had a problem that hurt so much that he asked the Lord \_\_\_\_\_ times to take it away, vs. 8. Do you have a problem like that?? As we go through these 4 verses we are going to see God's glorious provision for the problems we encounter in life.

Everybody suffers: Rom. 8:18 "For I reckon that the \_\_\_\_\_ of this present time are not worthy to be \_\_\_\_\_ with the glory that shall be revealed in us."

Suffering, painful problems, are everyone's lot in life. We saw in Job 5:7 and 14:1 that this is true. Of course sufferings can range from a 1 to a 10 in degrees of severity. Most of us think of our problems as a 10. Ten being the worst. A small sliver at the end of our finger gets the attention of our whole body. Our eyes look at it, our mind begins to form a plan, our feet take us to get some help and so on. We generally put a lot of attention on our problems.

What does Paul do? II Cor. 12:8 "For this thing, (the problem) "I \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ thrice..." Paul prayed to the Lord about his trouble.

Prayer is wonderfully described in Lamentations 2:19 "Arise, cry out in the night: in the beginning of the watches \_\_\_\_\_ like water before the face of the Lord..." As a child of God we have access to God. An open door into the very presence of God.

Paul did not teach that our prayers were confined to a "before meals and bedtime" routine. Rom. 12:12 "Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; \_\_\_\_\_ instant in \_\_\_\_\_;"

Do you see in this verse how trouble and prayer are linked together?

Eph. 6:18 "\_\_\_\_\_ with all \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ in the Spirit..."

Phil. 4:6 "Be careful for nothing, but in \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_ and supplication with \_\_\_\_\_ let your \_\_\_\_\_ be made known unto God."

Col. 4:2 "\_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_..."

I Thes. 5:17 "\_\_\_\_\_ without \_\_\_\_\_."

We are instructed and encouraged to be in communication with our heavenly Father at all times. What a wonderful provision God had made for us! So pour out your heart to your Heavenly Father!

Lesson 48 Continued

Eph. 2:18 "For through him we both have \_\_\_\_\_ by one Spirit unto the Father.

Eph. 3:12 "In whom we have \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_ by the faith of him."

Are we benefiting from this wonderful provision of prayer? Are we taking advantage of it? Our verse says in II Cor. 12:8 that Paul "besought the Lord."

Paul was imploring, beseeching, pressing the Lord on behalf of his trouble. I think of Moses when he was told that he would not enter the promise land. Read Deut. 3:24-29. Moses was quite persistent with his beseeching of the Lord regarding this. What does the Lord finally say to Moses? Vs. 26...speak \_\_\_\_\_ unto me of this \_\_\_\_\_." God's desire was not to ignore or silence Moses; but rather to bring Moses into line with his will. To satisfy Moses' request with an understanding of His will. How much of our petitioning, begging, imploring would be silenced if we but were in agreement with God's will. My friend, that is one of the reasons to study the word of God, that we might know the will of God.

Col. 1:9 "For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to \_\_\_\_\_ for you, and to \_\_\_\_\_ that ye might be \_\_\_\_\_ with the \_\_\_\_\_ of his \_\_\_\_\_ in all wisdom and spiritual understanding." God wants to hear from us about everything. But we do not want to repeat over and over again our issues that God has given answers to in His word. That's what children do. Children can ask the same question over and over again even though you've spoke to them regarding the matter. Before we move on into God's words to Paul and to us regarding how to handle our trouble, I'd like to take a look at a few other men of God who besought the Lord.

Read I Sam. 15. In verse one we see Samuel anointing Saul to be king and telling him to \_\_\_\_\_ unto the voice of the \_\_\_\_\_ of the LORD. In vs. 3 Samuel tells Saul that he is to \_\_\_\_\_ all that they have. In vs. 9 we find that Saul and the people \_\_\_\_\_ Agag, and the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_, and of the \_\_\_\_\_, and all that was \_\_\_\_\_, and would \_\_\_\_\_ utterly \_\_\_\_\_: In vs. 11 we see that God repented that He had made Saul king. God changed His mind toward Saul being king and this \_\_\_\_\_ Samuel. Samuel then \_\_\_\_\_ unto the LORD \_\_\_\_\_. Samuel cried unto the Lord all night. All this crying resulted in Samuel aligning himself with God's will. Vs. 35 "And Samuel came no more to see Saul until the day of his death..."

Look at II Sam. 12:1-25 In vs. 14 we see that Nathan tells David that the child he had with Bathsheba that cost Uriah his life would \_\_\_\_\_. In vs. 16 David \_\_\_\_\_ God for the child. In vs. 18 the child \_\_\_\_\_. All David's praying and fasting resulted in David finally aligning himself with God. Vs. 20 "Then David arose from the earth, and \_\_\_\_\_, and anointed himself, and \_\_\_\_\_ his \_\_\_\_\_, and came into the house of the LORD, and \_\_\_\_\_..." Yes, we too beseech the Lord much like Samuel and David, contrary to God's revealed will. But it is God's hearts desire to turn our focus from our troubles to His wonderful revealed will.

## Lesson 48 Continued

Next week we will see how God so completely satisfied Paul's desire for deliverance from his suffering that Paul could say "...I take pleasure in infirmities.."