

Lesson 69 Answers and Comments

Christ	caught	revelation
Risen	up	mystery
Vain	clouds	secret
Faith	meet	revelation
Delivered	Lord	known
Offences	air	mystery
Raised	ever	not
Justification	with	known
Death	blessed	now
Sting	hope	comfort
Grave	Noe	these
Victory	coming	words
Swallowed	Son	
Words	two	
Lord	field	
Jesus	one	
Christ	taken	
Asleep	left	
Descend	wars	
Heaven	against	
Shout	famines	
Voice	pestilences	
Archangel	earthquakes	
Trump	wisdom	
Dead	God	
Rise	mystery	
Alive	hidden	
Remain	wisdom	

Paul uses the word comfort or comforted seven times in his letters to the Thessalonians. He uses the word comfort both in the sense of needing comfort and giving comfort.

I Thess. 3:2 "...and to comfort you concerning your faith:"

I Thess. 3:7 "...we were comforted over you in all our afflictions and distress by you faith." Did you know that your faith (believing God's word to you) can be a comfort to others?

I thess 5:11 "Wherefore comfort yourselves together..."

We all like to receive comfort. But I'm exhorted in these verses to be a comfort giver. I know I can do this by believing God's word to me and letting it conform me to the image of Christ. I pray that we will be comfort givers and not just comfort needers.

Lesson 70 Ignorant Brethren

Over the last several weeks we studied the 6 times Paul uses the term ignorant and brethren together. Let's summarize our studies.

1. Rom. 1:13 – don't be ignorant concerning Paul's apostleship to the Gentiles and the message God revealed to him.
2. Rom. 11:25 – don't be ignorant regarding the change in God's program. The setting aside of Israel with all her provisions and promises gave way to the dispensation of grace.
3. I Cor. 10:1 – don't be ignorant about Israel's great beginning and then her failures, lest we repeat them.
4. I Cor. 12:1 – don't be ignorant concerning spiritual gifts.
5. II Cor. 1:8 – don't be ignorant about trouble, especially the trouble that comes from living godly and God's deliverance program
6. I Thess. 4:13 – don't be ignorant about the blessed hope, the rapture.

The only way not to be ignorant is to study the word of God. By studying God's word rightly divided we will come unto the _____ of the _____ according to I Tim. 2:4.

I would like to add one more "ignorant beloved" to our study, although it was not written by Paul, it was written by Peter.

II Peter 3:8, 9 "But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. Vs. 9 The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."

Peter knows that he will soon be put to death. II Pet. 1:14 "Knowing that _____ I must put _____ this my _____, even as our Lord Jesus Christ hath shewed me.

In John 21:18, 19 we find what Peter is referring to. In vs. 18 we see Christ telling Peter that he will "...stretch forth thy _____, and another shall gird thee, and _____ thee whither thou wouldest _____." Vs. 19 "This spake he, signifying by what _____ he should glorify God..." Peter wants to leave his fellow Jewish believers with understanding and knowledge that will reassure them in their faith.

Look at the beginning of II Peter 3 and read the first 3 verses. In vs. 2 Peter reminds these believers of the words which were _____ before by the holy prophets. We know that the message Paul preached was kept _____ since the world began, Rom. 16:25. Peter directs their attention to the prophetic scriptures. He goes on to instruct them concerning their _____ days in II Pet. 3:3.

In verses 4-7 Peter tells them that the scoffers will ridicule the promise of Christ's coming. The scoffers try to instill doubt and unbelief on others. They get rather careless though in vs. 4 they say "...for since the fathers fell asleep, all things _____ as they were from the _____ of the _____."

Peter in vs. 5 points out the obvious. Things have not always continued the same since creation, remember Noah?? Vs. 6 "Whereby the _____ that then was, being _____ with _____, _____."

Peter wants these Jewish believers to turn a deaf ear to the scoffers for they use a premise that is easily disproved. Peter goes on in vs. 7 to say that since God had in the past destroyed the earth it is very credible to believe that He has some future plans to return and destroy it again.

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But how can these believers be sure that this event will come since it has been so long since this coming day of judgment was promised? Moses spoke of it in Deut. 30:3 "...and will _____ and _____ thee from all _____..."

David speaks of Christ's return and judgment in Ps. 2:1-9

Joel 1:15 "Alas for the day! For the day of the LORD is at hand, and as a _____ from the _____ shall it come."

They had the promises from the prophetic scriptures concerning the return of the Lord with firey judgment! But it's been so long! Where is He? Peter is now going to encourage his beloved people to not be ignorant of something that will put to rest any doubts they might have concerning this length of time.

II Pet. 3:8 "Peter says that in God's view of time one day is as a _____ years, and a _____ years is as _____ day."

Ps. 90:4 "For a _____ years in thy sight are but as _____ when it is past..."

Peter also says in vs. 8 that they were not to be ignorant of this _____. This, "one thing", is of utmost importance. It is to have eternity in view. These Jewish believers, like us, tended to be "time" focused. They, like us, need to keep the big picture in front of them, ETERNITY! This great truth will make peace, joy, contentment, hope, etc. a living reality in our lives.

Paul says it beautifully in II Cor. 4:18 "While we look not at the things which are _____, but at the things which are _____ seen: for the things which are seen are _____; but the things which are not seen are _____."

How much we all need to apply these verses to our lives. Are we living day to day with eternity in view?

Peter goes on in vs. 9 of II Peter 3 to explain the Lord's delay in coming. Vs. 9 "But the Lord is not _____ concerning his _____...but is _____ to us-ward, not _____ that _____ should _____, but that all should come to _____."

We see the heart of the Lord here. His love, His kindness, His longsuffering, are clearly seen. There's a reason for His delay. And whom does Peter say can explain this period of longsuffering? II Pet. 3:15 "And account that the _____ of our Lord is _____; even as our beloved brother _____ also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you; vs. 16 As also in all his _____, speaking in them of _____..." This delay was not prophesied, they had to go to Paul to understand it. For nearly 2 thousand more years the delay has continued. What an opportunity God has extended to sinful man to be saved.

When this parenthetical period is over, God will once again start his prophetic clock. And Peter doesn't miss a beat here. Does he tell the Jewish believer to look for the rapture, the blessed hope, the return of the Lord in the air for the church?

II Pet. 3:10 "But the _____ of the _____ will come as a _____ in the night; in the which the _____ shall pass _____ with a great _____, and the _____ shall _____ with fervent _____, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be _____ up." Does it

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take a Rhodes scholar to see that Peter and Paul are looking for 2 different returns of the Lord? Who do you think Peter is writing to? The Body of Christ or the little flock, believing Israel?

Can we, the body of Christ, benefit and learn from Peter? Absolutely! Do we apply the doctrine from Peter to our lives? No! Else we would be looking for a different return of the Lord than the one Paul preached. How clear the scriptures become when we rightly divide them. Old testament scriptures are full of the Lord's return in judgment. Zechariah 14, Is. 34:1-8, Matt. 24, And many, many, more. How exciting it is to study, learn, to come unto the knowledge of the truth.

Why? So we can puff ourselves up? Be smarter than the next guy? God forbid! II Tim. 3:17 "That the man of God may be _____, throughly furnished unto all _____."

Do we desire to be mature, perfect? Do we desire to be equipped, furnished to serve the Lord? Col. 1:9, 10 should be the outcome of being filled with the knowledge of His will. Vs. 10 "That ye might _____ of the Lord unto all _____, being _____ in every _____, and _____ in the _____ of God;"

What more could we want than a walk that is worthy of the high calling, the position, you and I occupy as the sons of God! Let's not be ignorant, but understanding I Cor. 14:20 "Brethren, be not _____ in _____: howbeit in malice be ye children, but in _____ be _____." Amen