

## Lesson 92 Answers and Comments

Anchor	liveth	groan	wait
Soul	our	waiting	hope
Sure	hope	adoption	thee
Steadfast	hope	redemption	
Hope	eternal	body	
Joy	life	dead	
Peace	God	life	
Believing	lie	Christ	
Abound	promise	God	
Hope	life	Christ	
Hope	Christ	our	
Without	Jesus	life	
Now	purpose	appear	
Far	Christ	appear	
Off	Jesus	with	
Nigh	eternal	him	
Blood	Jesus	glory	
Christ	Christ	saved	
Hope	promise	hope	
Heaven	Christ	hope	
Word	gospel	seen	
Truth	sufferings	hope	
Gospel	glory	seeth	
Christ	revealed	hope	
You	waiteth	hope	
Hope	manifestation	not	
Glory	sons	patience	
Christ	God	wait	

Paul said to the believers in Col. 1:23 "...and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel..." Believers can voluntarily remove themselves from the hope of the gospel. People make choices all the time to move away from certain things or people. There are consequences, either positive or negative, from our "moving away" choices. The consequences can range from mild to extremely significant.

Moving away from the "hope of the gospel" will have significant consequences to our spiritual life.

A believer who is moved away from the hope of the gospel will no longer enjoy the joy and peace that the "God of hope" desires for him to abound in.

### Lesson 93 The “if” of Col. 1:23

Col. 1:23 “If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, and which was preached to every creature which is under heaven, whereof I Paul am made a minister;”

Read Col. 1:1-23 several times.

In vs. 2 Paul addresses the Colosse believers as \_\_\_\_\_. In vs. 5 what do they have laid up in heaven? \_\_\_\_\_ In vs. 4 who did they have their faith in? \_\_\_\_\_ In vs. 12 what were they meet or made fit to be partakers of? The \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_. Where were they translated to? The \_\_\_\_\_ of his dear \_\_\_\_\_. In vs. 14 what did they have through his blood, even the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_. In vs. 21 the blood of Christ had \_\_\_\_\_ them to God.

If we went on through this glorious epistle we would find countless other conditions that pertained to these believers. Such as Col. 2:10 “And ye are \_\_\_\_\_ in him...” All of the things we looked at are the work of God for these believers. We know that God’s work can’t be undone.

Ecclesiastes 3:14 “I know that, \_\_\_\_\_ God \_\_\_\_\_, it shall be \_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_ can be put to it, nor \_\_\_\_\_ from it: and God \_\_\_\_\_ it, that men should fear before him.”

What a work God has done in us! And we can be confident that he will \_\_\_\_\_ it until the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ according to Phil. 1:6.

So now we come to vs. 23 of Col. 1. Is vs. 23 now going to condition all of God’s work on man’s work?? Is our faithfulness now going to determine whether or not we are redeemed, forgiven, made fit for our inheritance, have our position in the kingdom of God’s Son, delivered from the power of darkness, reconciled and complete? Impossible!

Just a brief reading of Rom. 8:31-39 would answer any question as to the believer’s security.

So then what’s with the IF? In reading C.R. Stam’s book on Colossians, he equates the “if” in Col. 1:23 with the way Paul uses it in Col. 2:20 and Col. 3:1 as a challenge to them. Not suggesting that these things were perhaps untrue, but assuming that if they had been reconciled to God, and they had, then they would indeed be continuing on in the faith. Stam then makes the following statement on pg. 87 of his book on Colossians. “If they had not been, if they had departed from the faith, it would have meant only one thing: that they had never been saved in the first place, because God keeps His own.”

Is it possible for a person to be truly saved and quit continuing on in the faith?

II Tim. 2:13 “If we \_\_\_\_\_, yet he abideth \_\_\_\_\_: he \_\_\_\_\_ himself.”

Gal. 3:1-5 “O foolish Galatians, who hath bewitched you, that ye should \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_...”

## Lesson 93 Continued

The Galatians had moved away from the truth. They were still saved but had not continued grounded in the faith. Paul continues to refer to them as “brethren” and “my little children”. And we know the Corinthians believers did not continue in the faith I Cor. 3:1 “And I, \_\_\_\_\_, could not speak unto you as unto \_\_\_\_\_, but as unto \_\_\_\_\_, even as unto \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ.”

It is every believers privilege and responsibility to continue on in the faith, to grow in understanding and have a fruitful walk.

II Thes. 3:13 “But ye, brethren, be not \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_.”

Eph. 4:15 “But speaking the truth in love, may \_\_\_\_\_ into him in \_\_\_\_\_, which is the head, even Christ.”

Col. 1:9 “...and to desire that ye might be \_\_\_\_\_ with the \_\_\_\_\_ of his will in all \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.”

Col. 2:6, 7 “As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so \_\_\_\_\_ ye in him: vs. 7 \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ in him, and \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_.”

Eph. 2:10 “For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto \_\_\_\_\_, which God hath before ordained that we \_\_\_\_\_ in them.”

II Tim. 3:14 “But \_\_\_\_\_ thou in the things which thou hast learned...”

It is God’s instruction to every believer to continue grounded and settled in the faith.

There is a salvation for believers who continue in the faith.

I Tim. 4:16 “Take heed unto thyself, and unto the \_\_\_\_\_; \_\_\_\_\_ in them: for in \_\_\_\_\_ this thou shalt both \_\_\_\_\_ thyself, and them that \_\_\_\_\_ thee.”

Here Paul is speaking to Timothy, a saved man, about a salvation from the heresy, the lies, that will permeate the world, I Tim. 4:1-8.

- Continuing on in the faith will keep the believer from rebuke and blame in this life. An example of this is found in Galatians 2:11-14 “But when \_\_\_\_\_ was come to Antioch, I \_\_\_\_\_ him to the face, because he was to be \_\_\_\_\_. In verse 12-14 we see that Peter did not continue in the faith and he influenced others to depart also. Not continuing on in the faith (doctrine, God’s revealed truth to us) will bring blame and have far reaching consequences.
- Continuing on in the faith will result in a fruitful life with “work” that will abide and be rewarded in the “life to come.”

I Cor. 3:12-17, vs. 13 “Every man’s \_\_\_\_\_ shall be made manifest...and the fire shall try every man’s work of what \_\_\_\_\_ it is.” Vs. 14 If any man’s work \_\_\_\_\_ which he hath \_\_\_\_\_ thereupon, he shall receive a \_\_\_\_\_. Vs. 15 If any man’s work shall be \_\_\_\_\_, he shall suffer \_\_\_\_\_: but he himself shall be \_\_\_\_\_; yet so as by fire.”

## Lesson 93 Continued

II Cor. 5:9, 10 “Wherefore we \_\_\_\_\_, that whether present or absent, we may be \_\_\_\_\_ of him. Vs. 10 For we must all \_\_\_\_\_ before the \_\_\_\_\_ seat of \_\_\_\_\_; that \_\_\_\_\_ may \_\_\_\_\_ the things done in the body, according to that he hath \_\_\_\_\_, whether it be \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_.”

In I Tim. 6:12-14 Paul encourages Timothy to “fight the good fight of faith’ and in vs. 14 he says “That thou \_\_\_\_\_ this commandment \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, until the \_\_\_\_\_ of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

In I Tim. 4:8 we read of the importance of maintaining godliness in our life. “For bodily exercise profiteth little: but \_\_\_\_\_ is profitable unto \_\_\_\_\_ things, having \_\_\_\_\_ of the life that \_\_\_\_\_ is, and of that which is \_\_\_\_\_.” Continuing on in the faith, living godly will bring salvation (not soul salvation) our life here and now but also will have eternal benefit in the life that is to come.

My suggestion for Col. 1:23’s “if” is perhaps this. Continuing on in the faith will keep our Christian walk from rebuke and blemish that will result in a fruitful life that is pleasing to God both now and forever.

Col. 1:10 “That ye might \_\_\_\_\_ of the Lord unto all \_\_\_\_\_, being \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_...” Our work will also abide when tried by fire.

Not continuing on in the faith (Paul’s gospel, the mystery) will result in an unfruitful life that is of no benefit to the work of Christ and will not withstand when it is tried by fire.

God’s work in the believer is not somehow conditioned on the believer’s work. A believer’s walk though is important! Our service should be our natural response to the mercies of God poured out to us on the cross.

Rom. 12:1, 2 “I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, that ye \_\_\_\_\_ your \_\_\_\_\_ a \_\_\_\_\_, holy \_\_\_\_\_ unto God, which is your \_\_\_\_\_.”

As we continue to study we will come to a greater understanding of the scripture. II Tim. 2:7 “Consider what I say, and the \_\_\_\_\_ give thee \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_.” As we consider the revelation the Lord gave to Paul, we will have understanding from the Lord in all things.

How can we who are so wondrously saved by the grace of God do anything else but “Continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved from the hope of the gospel...”