

Answers and Comments Lesson 113

Watch	me	pray
Pray	your	for
Watch	prayers	us
Pray	me	
Always	beseech	
Watch	Lord	
Pray	Jesus	
Continue	Christ's	
Prayer	love	
Watch	Spirit	
Watch	Jesus'	
Prayer	sake	
Perseverance	Jesus'	
All	sake	
Helping	Christ's	
Together	sake	
Prayer	Christ's	
For	sake	
Know	furtherance	
Through	gospel	
Prayer	bonds	
Supply	manifest	
Spirit	palace	
Trust	all	
Through	places	
Prayers	strive	
Strive	brethren	

We've been on vacation the last couple of weeks enjoying God's wondrous creation. Sometimes in our busy lives we don't take the time to watch the sunset until it finally disappears over the horizon leaving only an amber glow in the sky. Ps. 19:1 "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork."

To think that I know the creator and am His child and have benefited from His love and grace fills my heart with praise and adoration!

Lesson 114 The Five Finally's

I Cor. 13:11 “Finally, brethren, farewell. Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you.”

Over the next several weeks we will look at the 5 times Paul uses the word “finally”.

Finally – lastly, at the end, in conclusion.

The only other writer to use this word is Peter in I Pet. 3:8.

I have heard preachers say, “If you forget everything else I’ve said, remember this...” they are indicating that these last words are not “throw away” words, but words of utmost importance.

Well we know that every word of God is important! Matt. 4:4 “...It is _____, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by _____ that proceedeth out of the _____ of _____” This is quoted from Deut. 8:3.

Paul uses this word “finally”, as he is about to close his second letter to the Corinthians. Paul had written 2 letters of correction and stern rebuke to them. I find it so wonderfully precious that he reminds them of the close personal relationship that he has with them by the use of the very next word after finally, _____, yes brethren. Paul loved the Corinthian saints. Paul uses the term brethren about 100 times. God emphasizes our family tie over and over again. The Body of Christ is God’s treasured possession on earth. He calls the Body of Christ in Eph. 1:18, “...and what the riches of the glory of his _____ in the _____.” We are God’s inheritance!

God determined before the world began to form the Body of Christ. A called out (by the gospel) group of people to be His own. Eph. 1:5, 11 vs. 5 “Having _____ us unto the _____ of children ...” We, the Body of Christ, are God’s _____ possession in Eph. 1:14. Bought and paid for with the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ.

We are joined together with one another by the Holy Spirit into one body, I Cor. 12:12-27. Please read these verses carefully. We are brethren! Brethren emphasizes the oneness between us.

As members of the body of Christ we are united together, All members joined one to another. All sharing the same relationship to our Heavenly Father. All the children of God, Gal. 3:26 “For ye are _____ the _____ of _____ by _____ in _____.” Sons, children, members of God’s family, brethren!

Oh how the Corinthians must have rejoiced to hear these confirming words of the apostle Paul. Yes, their sins had brought rebuke and discipline but they were still brethren with Paul in the Body of Christ. The use of the word brethren should remind them of how they should view each other. And how should brethren act toward each other? Rom. 12:10 “Be kindly _____ one to _____ with _____, in honor _____ one another.”

But how were the Corinthians treating each other? II Cor. 12:20 “For I fear, lest, when I come, I shall not find you such as I would, and that I shall be found unto you such as ye would not: lest there be _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____:” There is rebuke and discipline and consequences within God’s family for ungodliness.

Lesson 114 Continued

If Rom. 12:10 were exercised the rebuke and discipline of II Cor. 12:21 would not be needed.

II Cor. 13:11 goes on to say, "Finally, brethren, _____."

Farewell implies much more than just good-bye, see ya later. Paul is telling the Corinthians to fare – (to do, move forward) well (in the right manner) which is in godliness.

Paul yearned for these saints,, II Cor. 12:14, 15 "...for I seek not yours, but _____... vs. 15 And I will very _____ and be _____ for _____; though the more abundantly I _____ you, the less I be loved." Paul did not want them to continue on in sin but to repent and live godly, II Cor. 12:20, 21.

Paul was always interested in how the saints were faring. In Acts 15:36 "...Let us go _____ and _____ our _____ in _____ city where we have _____ the _____ of the Lord and _____ how they _____."

Rom. 1:11, "For I _____ to _____ you..."

I Thes. 2:17, "...endeavored the more abundantly to _____ your _____ with _____."

I Thes. 3:6 "...and brought us good _____ of your _____ and _____..."
How Paul loved to hear how the saints were faring!

Farewell, move forward in the right manner. If Paul were to come and see how you and I were faring what would he find?? I'm going to ponder that question awhile.

Let's return to II Cor. 13:11, "Finally, brethren, farewell. Be _____..." the way to farewell or move forward in the right manner is found in perfection, or maturing in the faith.

II Tim. 3:16, 17, "All _____ is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for _____, for _____, for _____, for _____ in _____: vs. 17 That the _____ of _____ may be _____, thoroughly _____ unto _____ good _____."

The way to "be perfect" is through the scriptures. The word of God will bring perfection in our lives. The word of God is God's provision for faring well. There is no substitute.

In the O. T. we see that Noah was _____ Gen. 6:9 "...Noah was a just man and _____ in his generations..."

Job was _____ Job 1:1, 8 "There was a man in the land of UZ, whose name was Job: and that man was _____ and _____..."

The word perfect implies sincere, upright, pure of heart not sinless perfection.

A casual study of these men proves this out.

Lesson 114 Continued

Perfection is not following a list of dos and don'ts. But rather a life of faith. A life lived by the word of God reproving, correcting, teaching and instructing the sincere believer. Gal. 3:3 "Are ye so _____? Having begun in the Spirit, are ye now made _____ by the _____? The answer to this question is a resounding NO.

God has already perfected the believer "in Christ". Heb. 10:14 "For by one offering he hath _____ them that are sanctified." As a believer we are completely and infinitely made perfect by our standing "in Christ." We partake of what Christ is, perfect, Eph. 4:24 "And that ye put on the _____, which after God is _____ in _____ and _____."

Our call is to walk worthy of this position through the power of the word of God.

Eph. 4:1 "...that ye walk _____ of the _____ wherewith ye are called,"

"Be perfect" Paul tells the Corinthians. Not sinless perfection, but saints, who through the word of God, are prepared or fitted to live in keeping with who they truly are "in Christ".

The apostle Paul wrote to the Philippian saints regarding his own perfection. Phil. 3:12-14 "Not as though I had already attained, either were already _____: but I follow after, if that I may _____ that for which also I am _____ of Christ Jesus. Vs. 13 _____, I count _____ myself to have _____: but this one thing I do, _____ those things which are _____, and _____ forth unto those things which are before, vs. 14 I _____ toward the _____ for the prize of the _____ calling of God in Christ Jesus."

Next time we will finish this first of Paul's 5 finallys.