

## Answers and Comments Lesson 114

Written	tumults	reproof	vocation
Every	farewell	correction	perfect
Word	you	instruction	apprehend
Mouth	gladly	righteousness	apprehended
Brethren	spend	man	brethren
Inheritance	spent	God	not
Saints	you	perfect	apprehended
Predestinated	love	furnished	forgetting
Adoption	again	all	behind
Purchased	visit	works	reaching
All	brethren	perfect	press
Children	every	perfect	mark
God	preached	perfect	high
Faith	word	perfect	
Christ	see	upright	
Jesus	do	foolish	
Affectioned	long	perfect	
Another	see	flesh	
Brotherly	see	perfected	
Love	face	for	
Preferring	great	ever	
Debates	desire	new	
Envyng	tidings	man	
Wraths	faith	created	
Strifes	charity	righteousness	
Backbitings	perfect	true	
Whisperings	scripture	holiness	
Swellings	doctrine	worthy	

Brethren, I trust you've been faring well over the last several weeks. As I looked back over our last lesson I was reminded of our oneness. Even though we don't have a physical connection here I rejoice in knowing you are my brethren and I am yours.

God's provisions for each of us to fare well as we journey through this life are more than sufficient to allow us to "be perfect", godly saints maturing in the faith, living a life that brings glory to our Lord and Saviour!

## Lesson 115 The First Finally, Part 2

II 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.”

Last time we looked at how the scriptures are God’s provision for us, the body of Christ, to “be perfect” to farewell in this life. II Tim. 3:16, 17.

Do we really believe this? Is Jer. 15:16 the attitude of our heart?

Jer. 15:16 “Thy \_\_\_\_\_ were found, and I did \_\_\_\_\_ them; and thy \_\_\_\_\_ was unto me the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ of mine \_\_\_\_\_.”

I’m reminded of God’s provision for Israel to fare well in the wilderness.

Num. 21:5 “And the people spake \_\_\_\_\_ God, and against \_\_\_\_\_, Wherefore have ye brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is \_\_\_\_\_, neither is there any \_\_\_\_\_, and our \_\_\_\_\_ this \_\_\_\_\_.”

We know that God provided manna and water for the children of Israel, read Ex. 15:22-16:1-13. God had indeed given them provisions in the wilderness the problem was that they loathed it!

The church is sometimes guilty of this same attitude. The word of God is boring, not relevant, hard to understand, etc. When we desire it, feast on it, love it, consume it, then we will farewell as we will move forward in perfection, thoroughly furnished to live godly!

Our verse in II Cor. 13:11 goes on to say “...be of good comfort...”. Paul uses the word comfort or a form of the word about 14 times in this epistle.

II Cor. 1:3, 4 “...the Father of mercies, and the God of all \_\_\_\_\_ vs. 4 Who \_\_\_\_\_ us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to \_\_\_\_\_ them which are in any trouble, by the \_\_\_\_\_ wherewith we ourselves are \_\_\_\_\_ of God.”

II Cor. 2:7 “...to forgive him, and \_\_\_\_\_ him...”

II Cor. 7:4 “...I am filled with \_\_\_\_\_...” 7:6 “Nevertheless God, that \_\_\_\_\_ those that are cast down, \_\_\_\_\_ us by the coming of Titus.” 7:13 “Therefore we are \_\_\_\_\_ in your \_\_\_\_\_...”

Comfort was obviously on the mind of Paul as he wrote this epistle and as he draws it to a close he says, “be of good comfort.”

Paul uses the word \_\_\_\_\_ before comfort. There is a comfort that only masks the pain or affliction we experience. When it wears off the pain returns.

Paul wanted these believers to move forward in good comfort. Surrounded with lasting encouragement, strength and cheer.

## Lesson 115 Continued

Sometimes after rebuke we can tend to be rather “down”. Paul did not want this to be the case. To receive and give comfort is the privilege of all believers.

And what does God’s comfort accomplish in us?

Rom. 15:4 “For whatsoever things were \_\_\_\_\_ aforesaid were \_\_\_\_\_ for our \_\_\_\_\_, that we through \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_ might have \_\_\_\_\_.”

The scriptures are written that we might have patience and comfort that produces hope in us. Confident expectation in what God has said he will do! When we are of good comfort hope will be abounding in us.

II Cor. 13:11 goes on to say “...Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of \_\_\_\_\_...”

The Corinthians were not of one mind.

I Cor. 3:3 & 4 “For ye are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_, are ye not carnal, and walk as men?” vs. 4 For while \_\_\_\_\_ saith, I am of \_\_\_\_\_; and another, I am of \_\_\_\_\_; are ye not carnal?”

In Rom. 15:5 & 6 what’s another word for “one mind”? \_\_\_\_\_

In I Cor. 1:10 we read “...that ye all \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_, and that there be no \_\_\_\_\_ among you; but that ye be \_\_\_\_\_ together in the \_\_\_\_\_ and in the same judgment.”

This one-mindedness has nothing to do with agreement on the food we like, games we enjoy, etc. but it has everything to do with the doctrine we believe!

Phil. 1:27 “...that ye \_\_\_\_\_ in one spirit, with \_\_\_\_\_ striving together for the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_.”

Rom. 16:17 “Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them that cause \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ contrary to the \_\_\_\_\_ which ye have; and avoid them.”

When we talk about doctrine some might say “oh that’s controversial” or “that divides”. NO! NO! NO!

Doctrine unites! Eph. 4:3-6 “Endeavouring to \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Seven doctrines are then mentioned that will produce unity in the church if all believe the same, have one mind, regarding them! We do not create or determine these doctrines, we are told to keep the unity. God clearly puts forth His truth that we are to keep.

II Thes. 3:14 “And if any man \_\_\_\_\_ our \_\_\_\_\_ by this \_\_\_\_\_, note that man, and have \_\_\_\_\_ with him, that he may be ashamed.”

## Lesson 115 Continued

I Tim. 6:3-5 “If any man \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ not to \_\_\_\_\_ words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the \_\_\_\_\_ which is according to \_\_\_\_\_. Vs. 4 He is \_\_\_\_\_ ... vs. 5 ...destitute of the \_\_\_\_\_...from such withdraw thyself.”

Dear friend, one mindedness in doctrine will unite us in godliness and will prevent the carnality of division from creeping in.

II Cor. 13:11 “...Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_;...”

The exhortation to live in peace is talking about the peaceable attitudes of Rom. 14:19 “Let us therefore follow after the things that make for \_\_\_\_\_, and things wherewith one may \_\_\_\_\_ another.”

Rom. 15:2 “Let every one of us \_\_\_\_\_ his neighbor for his \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.”  
Not insisting on having our own way in matters where liberty should be exercised.

Sometimes we can look at this exhortation to “live in peace” and see conflict all around us. The spiritual battle will always rage around the godly saint, Eph. 6:11. Our flesh will always be contrary to the Spirit, Gal. 5:17. There will be conflicts, persecutions, tribulations, sufferings and struggles. This does not mean we are failing to “live in peace”. We are called to endure \_\_\_\_\_ in II Tim. 2:3 as a good \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus Christ.

In II Tim. 2:4 Paul says, “No man that \_\_\_\_\_ entangleth himself with the \_\_\_\_\_ of this \_\_\_\_\_, that he may \_\_\_\_\_ him who hath \_\_\_\_\_ him to be a \_\_\_\_\_.”

Don't be dismayed if all around the battle rages. But let us “live in peace” with each other in matters of liberty. Not insisting on forcing our idiosyncrasies on others! I may be a stickler for detail, should I cause conflict by enforcing you to live up to my silly standard?? Condemning others who are not so rigid as I?? The horrible things that have befallen the church because of such ungodly divisiveness!

As I ponder these exhortations in II Cor. 13:11 “Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace” I can tend to get introspective and say Impossible! I can't do that! Oh dear friend, I only need pause and finish the verse to see God's loving enabling provision for me to know that it's not I but Christ who will accomplish all!

We will finish this first of Paul's 5 finally's next week.