

Subject: Youth Bible study 34

Lesson 33 Answers and Comments

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| Young | Belial | exhort |
| Men | knew | authority |
| Children | not | exhortation |
| Praise | LORD | deceit |
| Name | sin | uncleaness |
| LORD | young | guile |
| Name | men | exhorted |
| Excellent | very | comforted |
| Glory | abhorred | charged |
| Aged | Samuel | father |
| Men | favor | children |
| Sober | LORD | |
| Grave | ministered | |
| Temperate | child | |
| Sound | carnally | |
| Faith | death | |
| Charity | spiritually | |
| Patience | life | |
| Rehoboam | peace | |
| Jeroboam | young | |
| Taxes | seek | |
| Old men | God | |
| Speak good words | 8 | |
| Young men | 16 | |
| Young men's | learned | |
| War | exhort | |
| Knowledge | longsuffering | |
| Discretion | doctrine | |
| Counsel | faithful | |
| Instruction | word | |
| Wise | sound | |
| Latter | doctrine | |
| Priests | exhort | |

Paul tells Timothy, a young man, in I Tim. 4:16 to "Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee." This exhortation by Paul was not only to encourage but to safe guard Timothy. Paul did not want Timothy to fall prey to apostasy or carnality. The way to "save" yourself from those things is by taking heed to the word of God and continuing in those things. Vs. 5 of the same chapter says concerning doctrine, meditate, give thyself wholly to them. We need men both young and old who meditate on doctrine and continue in those things.

Lesson 34 - Young Men

Titus 2:6 "Young men likewise exhort to be sober minded."

When we hear about young men and their minds, we generally hear things like: He's so "sports" minded, "money" minded, "girl" minded, "work" minded, "lazy" minded, "car" minded, etc. I can't really remember the last time I heard anyone describe a young man as "sober minded".

We have looked at the word sober in depth in other lessons. But in this verse we see sober connected to the word mind.

Sober minded: a mind that is healthy, sound, right. If the mind is healthy so will be the rest of the body, spiritually speaking.

Sober minded is to have a mind that is influenced by the healthy teaching of the word of God.

Paul uses the word sober or soberly about a dozen times. The only other writer to use this word is Peter who uses it three times. Let's take a look at several of these verses to get the sense that God is conveying to us.

I Thess. 5:6 "Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be _____." Sober and watch go together here and are in contrast to sleep.

I Thess. 5:7,8 "For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night. Vs. 8 But let us who are of the _____, be _____, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation."

Sober here is contrasted with the behavior of those who are in the night or darkness. The behaviors of the unsaved are not to be a part of the believer. Soberness is connected to words like faith, love and salvation.

I Tim. 3:2 "A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, _____, of good behaviour..."

Here sober is a qualification for spiritual leaders.

I Tim. 3:11 "Even so must their wives be grave, not slanderers, _____, faithful in all things."

I Pet. 1:13 "Wherefore _____ of the _____ of your _____, be _____..."

I Per. 4:7 "But the end of all things is at hand: be ye therefore _____, and watch unto prayer."

Rom. 12:3 "...not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to _____,..."

Lesson 34 Continued

Titus 2:12 "Teaching us that, denying _____ and _____ lusts, we should live _____, righteously and _____, in this present world;"

Soberly is in contrast to ungodliness and worldly lusts. It is in connection with righteousness and godliness.

Sober minded is to have the right mind about sin, godliness, God and His word and the world.

What will produce sober minded young men? Threats, rewards, emotion and guilt are usually used by "religion". God will get you if you don't and reward you if you do! This is not God's plan for producing sober minded men today.

Doctrine is God's answer. What did Paul tell Titus to exhort with in our passage? Titus 2:1 "But _____ thou the things which become _____:" By having God's thoughts our thoughts, our minds will be sound, sober.

Only a preoccupation with the sound doctrine of the word of God will produce sober-mindedness. It will cause us to be Christ conscious and Christ minded.

When sober-mindedness is the reality in your life, you may be perceived as being "not sober" but rather "beside yourself" or even "mad"!

I think of the account in Acts 26 where Paul is giving his defense before King Agrippa and Festus. Read through this chapter to get an idea of the complete obsession that Paul had with the word of God.

In verse 24 Festus, has had enough and says "...Paul, thou art _____ thyself, much _____ hath made thee _____." All that scripture is making you insane! But Paul quickly counters in vs. 25 "But he said, I am _____ mad, most noble Festus; but speak forth the words _____ and

_____."

The world will view a "sober minded" man with contempt and scorn. And sadly, even other believers, may resent, feel intimidated and speak ill of godliness in other saints.

Don't let fear of man hold you back from absorbing yourself with Christ and His word. But join with Paul in his life's desire, Phil. 3:10 "That I may _____ and the power of his _____, and the fellowship of his _____, being made conformable unto his death;"

Take an objective look at yourself and fill in the blank. I am _____ minded. When the world and other believers see me they think first of all that I am _____ minded. I pray "sober" is in your blanks or will be.