

Lesson 57 Answers and Comments

Is it expedient	glory
Will it edify	God
How will it affect others	short
Will it enslave me	glory
Word	God
Hid	hope
Heart	glory
Not	appear
Sin	glory
Whatsoever	fruits
Whatsoever	righteousness
Do	glory
Word	praise
Deed	God
All	earth
Lord	filled
Jesus	glory
Name	God
Ambassadors	glory
Stead	honor
Body	power
Christ	
Name	
Lord	
Jesus	
Christ	
Glorified	
You	

Some might think that the believer's liberty (as defined by the grace principles) is too confining, restraining or restrictive. This is, of course, caused by a lack of appreciation for the great cost that was paid to set us free from the guilt, penalty and power of sin. A failure to have a constantly thankful heart to our Lord for rescuing us who were hell bound and hell deserving with His own precious blood on the cross. We must never grow cold or tire of hearing of Christ's redeeming love, His sacrifice that enabled God to take people with no hope and justify, forgive and reconcile them unto Himself.

Lesson 58 Liberty and Thanksgiving

Col. 3:17 “And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.”

I know we finished our study on the believer’s liberty in everyday decision making. I would like to take one more look at this verse in Col. 3:17.

Why or what will cause each of us to apply the grace principles of liberty to make godly decisions? This verse holds a great truth! “..._____ to God and the Father by him.” Yes, a thankful heart. How often do you and I take time to meditate on the things God has done for us and be thankful?

We know that one of the characteristics of the heathen is: Rom. 1:21 “Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were _____...” I find it rather peculiar that so many unbelievers so often say this phrase, “thank God”. These “thank God,” words seem to always apply to “near miss,” situations from which they were spared. Or good circumstances that come their way. “Thank God we didn’t get hit by that falling tree.” “Thank God we won the game.” And on and on it goes. Does this mean they are truly thankful to God? Well, yes, they are thankful to their god! This god is of their own imagination, defined by them. But the heathen are not thankful to the God of heaven, else they would heed His instruction, believe His word which says that they are ungodly and in need of a Saviour. That Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners and put their faith in Him alone thereby then being justified by faith and at peace with God.

Rom. 5:1 “Therefore being _____ by _____, we have _____ with _____ through our _____.” (not through our works, religious performances, or anything else)

For those of us who responded to God’s gospel call with a heart of faith, thanksgiving should be the drumbeat of our heart.

II Cor. 9:15 “_____ be unto _____ for his _____.”

Rom. 6:23 “For the wages of sin is death; but the _____ of God is _____ through _____ our Lord.”

This gift was willing to go from being _____ to being _____ according to II Cor. 8:9, that you and I might be _____.

Has the luster worn off God’s unspeakable gift in our life? If so, I guarantee we will no longer be thankful which will result in a lack of desire to exercise our liberty in a godly manner. Let’s take a few minutes to look at some of God’s wondrous works in our life for which we should erupt in thanksgiving. Like an exploding volcano of thanks!

Let’s start by looking at and understanding II Cor. 5:18 “And _____ things are of _____...” Back in verses 14-17, Paul is laying some foundational dispensational truth. In vs. 16 Paul tells us that from now on we don’t know _____ after the

_____. Hold on to your Bible! Paul is here talking about our Lord in His earthly ministry to Israel (as found in the gospels). Today, in the age of grace, we know Him according to the revelation of the mystery.

Lesson 58 continued

Rom. 16:25 "...the preaching of Jesus Christ according to the _____ of the _____, which was kept _____ since the world began." He's the same Lord Jesus Christ, but we know Him in a way never before revealed until Paul. Christ is in you. Christ our hope of glory. Christ the wisdom of God. Christ the victor over death. Christ our peace. Christ our life.

That is why Paul can go on to say in II Cor. 5:17 "Therefore if any man be _____, he is a _____: _____ things are passed _____ Behold, _____ things are become _____."

This verse is not about you and I no longer having a desire for old sin behaviors. But about a change in dispensations! Something brand new from God's drawing board in heaven has been revealed. In verse 17 Paul refers to those "in Christ" in the dispensation of grace as a _____ creature. Our "new creature" transformation is like nothing ever known before!! No saint in the Old Testament or any of Christ's disciples, no, not one single believer before Paul ever had this "new creature" transformation. We are truly a new species of humanity. I hope your volcano is beginning to erupt! And as Paul goes on in vs. 18, "And _____ things are of _____..."

This is what Jesus Christ has accomplished for us in the dispensation of grace. Christ, not as the man from Galilee feeding thousands with a sack lunch. But Christ, who on the cross, II Cor. 5:19 "To wit, that _____ was in _____ the world unto himself..." Not Christ instructing His followers to follow the law of Moses in Matt. 23:2, 3. That was when Christ was known "after the flesh."

II Cor. 5:16 "...yet now henceforth _____ we _____ no more." The risen Christ reveals to Paul, His secret. Something brand new is now in operation! Christ, the one in whom all who put their faith are _____ in Col. 2:10. Christ, the one in whom all who put their faith are made the very _____ of God in II Cor. 5:21. Christ, the one in whom all who put their faith have: been made _____, Eph. 1:6, have _____ through His _____, the _____ of _____, Eph. 1:7.

In Eph. 2:13, in Christ we who were _____ off are made _____ by the blood of Christ.

In Christ we have _____ unto the Father, Eph. 2:18.

In Col. 2:11, 12 we are circumcised, buried and risen with Christ. Look at vs. 12 "...through the _____ of the _____ of God..." Remember, "all things are of God." Are we filled with thanksgiving yet?

Listening to a gospel singing group performing from Jerusalem there were many tears as they recalled walking and kneeling where Jesus walked and knelt. There were many songs and words about "feeling His presence" as they walked on "holy ground". They were trying to "experience" Christ after the flesh.

Paul had one consuming passion concerning Christ. Phil 3:10 “That I may _____ him...” Not as the carpenter walking on the shores of Galilee, but in all He has revealed about Himself according to the revelation of the mystery.

Lesson 58 Continued

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! Oh that we might long to exercise our liberty with thanksgiving.

