

Lesson 84 Answers and Comments

There should be one more blank in Phil. 4:8 for (lovely)

Heart	faith	peace	honest
Sound	charity	mind	just
Statues	patience	Christ	pure
Ashamed	sound	body	lovely
Sound	speech	temple	good
Wisdom	soundness	Holy	report
Sound	flesh	Ghost	virtue
Wisdom	soundness	in	praise
Sound	reprobate	Spirit	think
Wisdom	vanity	received	things
Understanding	mind	spirit	
Strength	enemies	know	
Sound	mind	freely	
Heart	fleshly	perfect	
Life	mind	peace	
Flesh	mind	mind	
Sound	conscience	stayed	
Doctrine	defiled	renewed	
Sound	corrupt	mind	
Words	minds	renewed	
Sound	old	knowledge	
Doctrine	man	transformed	
Sound	crucified	renewing	
Doctrine	crucified	mind	
Sound	carnally	let	
Faith	minded	word	
Sound	spiritually	dwell	
Doctrine	minded	wisdom	
Sound	life	true	

Paul was accused on a few occasions of having an unsound mind. In fact, they said he was “mad”. In Acts 26:24, 25 we see that Festus says to Paul “...Paul, thou art beside thyself; much learning doth make thee mad.” The very thing that had brought soundness of mind to Paul was now being blamed for causing him to go bonkers. Has this ever happened to you?? The more you learn sound doctrine and speak it to others the more nuts they think you are. But Paul does not let the way others defined him cause him to think they were right. He says in vs. 25, “But I said, I am not mad, most noble Festus, but speak forth the words of truth and soberness.” May you and I do likewise!!

Lesson 85 Quitting the Work

Another pitfall for believers that I'd like to look at is: Quitting the work!

Acts 15:38 "But Paul thought not good to take him (John-Mark) with them, who departed from them from Pamphylia, and went not with them to the work."

Read Acts 15:36-41

This is quite an account of contention! And between 2 men who were laboring together in the ministry no less. What was all the fuss about John-Mark?

Evidently Mark had abandoned the work at Pamphylia.

Acts 13:13, "Now when Paul and his company loosed from Paphos, they came to Perga in _____: and _____ from them returned to Jerusalem."

The scriptures don't offer us the reason for John-Mark's sudden departure from the work. We do know that hazardous conditions generally surrounded Paul and those who accompanied with him. Maybe it was the danger that sent him packing. We know Paul had to encourage Timothy in this regard. II Tim. 1:8, "Be not thou ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me his prisoner: but be thou _____ of the _____ of the _____ according to the power of God;"

And Paul addresses all believers in regard to enduring perilous times in Phil. 1:28, 29, "And in nothing _____ by your _____: which is to them an evident token of perdition, but to you of salvation, and that of God. Vs. 29 For unto you it is _____ on the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to _____ for his _____."

I Thess. 3:3, "That no man should be moved by these _____: for yourselves know that we are _____ thereunto. Vs. 4 for verily, when we were with you, we told you before that we should _____: even as it came to pass, and ye know."

II Thess. 1:4, "...in all your _____ and _____ that ye endure."

When the going is tough there's always the option of quitting. We are promised suffering.

II Tim. 3:12, "Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus _____..."

Rom. 8:18, "For I reckon that the _____ of this _____..."

We of course don't know if the dangers and perils caused John-Mark to depart from the work but we don't want to let them cause us to quit the work.

Paul encourages Timothy in II Tim. 2:3, "Thou therefore _____, as a good _____ of Jesus Christ."

Or maybe John-Mark had entangled himself with the affairs of this life to the point he could no longer continue on in the work.

II Tim. 2:4, "No man that warreth _____ himself with the _____ of this _____..."

Lesson 85 Continued

We all have bills to pay, etc. but when we become entangled in the affairs of this life we can soon lose our affection for things above.

I Tim. 6:9,10, "But they that _____ be _____ fall into _____ and a _____... vs. 10 For the _____ of _____ is the root of all evil: which while some _____ after, they have _____ from the _____ and pierced themselves through with many sorrows."

Life can get so complicated or filled with this life's affairs that we can quit the work.

Or maybe John-Mark just got discouraged. The task was so enormous! Preaching the gospel to far away places to people he had never seen. Trouble followed them everywhere. Do we ever think, "Is it really worthwhile? The world is so big, so heathen, so hopeless, what good is it all anyway?" This is much like Elias thought.

Rom. 11:3, "Lord, they have _____ thy _____, and digged _____ thine _____: and I am left _____, and they _____ my _____."

In I Kings 19:1-4 we read of this account of Elijah. Read these 4 verses. In vs. 4 we see that Elijah is ready to quit. "...and came and sat under a juniper tree: and he requested for himself that he might _____; and said, It is _____; now, O LORD, take _____ my _____; for I am not better than my fathers."

The enormity of the work, the failure to see success can cause one to quit.

Maybe John-Mark got disappointed in his position. Maybe he did all the grunt work and didn't get "appreciated" for who and what he could do. Paul knew what it was like to be "unappreciated".

I Cor. 4:11-13 vs. 12, "And _____, _____ with our own hands: being _____, we bless; being _____, we suffer it: vs. 13 Being _____ we entreat: we are made as the _____ of this world, and are the _____ of all things unto this day."

Paul gladly made himself a _____ unto all, in I Cor. 9:19. Paul didn't think it beneath him to do the grunt work. Acts 20:34, "Yea, ye yourselves know, that these _____ have _____ unto my _____, and to them that were with me."

Is it possible to quit the work because your not appreciated? Maybe your always doing the "unimportant" things so what's the use, let's quit.

The reasons are endless as to why believers quit the work. Paul says to Timothy in II Tim. 3:14, "But _____ thou..." in II Tim. 4:2, "_____ the word; be _____ in season, out of season... In Gal. 6:9, "And let us not be _____ in _____: for in due season we shall _____, if we _____ not."

II Thess. 3:13, "But ye, brethren, be not _____ in _____."

II Cor. 4:1, "Therefore seeing we have this _____, as we have received mercy, we _____."

II Cor. 4:16, "For which cause we _____"

Lesson 85 Continued

Paul says in Phil. 3:13, 14 "...forgetting those things which are behind, and _____ forth unto those things which are _____, vs. 14 I _____ toward the _____ for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."

Even though Paul and Barnabas no longer enjoyed the relationship they once had and the joy of serving together, neither one quit the work.

As for John-Mark, we find Paul sending for him near the end of his life.

II Tim. 4:11, "Only Luke is with me. Take _____, and bring him with thee: for he is _____ to _____ for the _____."

John-Mark did not stay a quitter. He had rejoined the work and was now viewed by Paul as profitable to the ministry.

Many believers have fallen into the pitfall of quitting the work. The reasons are many but none of them are valid.

I Cor. 15:58, "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye _____, _____, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your _____ is not in _____ in the Lord."