

## Lesson 109 Answers and Comments

Weary	spirit	perfect	marrow	build	perfect
Hand	joints	converting	heard	nourished	furnished
Clave	marrow	soul	pricked	words	good
Sword	discerner	wise	heart	faith	works
Stood	thoughts	word	heard	good	fill
Midst	intents	God	cut	doctrine	joy
Defended	heart	word	heart	doctrine	peace
LORD	spirit	God	secrets	save	believing
Great	quickeneth	effectually	heart	comfort	abound
Victory	words	worketh	manifest	these	hope
Spirit	spirit	mouth	worship	words	power
Body	life	sharp	searcheth	bringeth	Holy
Temple	born	sword	reins	fruit	Ghost
Holy	incorruptible	smite	hearts	acknowledging	patience
Ghost	word	rule	search	truth	comfort
In	God	said	heart	godliness	scriptures
Habitation	liveth	power	reins	strengthened	hope
God	abideth	power	sanctify	might	written
Spirit	faith	establish	cleanse	Spirit	admonition
Word	hearing	my	washing	inner	word
God	word	gospel	water	man	God
Word	God	words	word	scripture	worketh
God	scriptures	Lord	word	profitable	believe
Quick	able	Jesus	Christ	doctrine	
Powerful	wise	Christ	wisdom	reproof	
Sharper	salvation	soul	word	correction	
Dividing	law	spirit	grace	instruction	
Soul	LORD	joints	able	righteousness	

I love reading that account of David's mighty men in II Sam. 23. No less exciting is to read II Tim. 4:7 where Paul, God's mighty man, saying with all victory, that he had fought a good fight, finished his course and kept the faith. At the end of Paul's life, he stood cleaving to his sword, having fulfilled the work God gave him to do, ready to go home to be with the Lord, and happy he hadn't wavered, but had stayed in the "good" fight, keeping the faith! How hard the battle was, how weary he grew, how much he was persecuted, abandoned and hated was of no consequence to him. God's word in his hand could not be loosed, he clave to it as much as Eleazar did to his sword and yes, God wrought a great victory!

## Lesson 110 Prayer

Eph. 6:18 “Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints.”

God joins this next verse with our armor as a necessary provision for our warfare with the devil. God’s people have always been told to pray. Luke 18:1 “And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that \_\_\_\_\_ ought \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_, and not to faint.”

Prayer – talking, communing with God. Paul makes approximately 50 references to prayer. It is crucial to our spiritual well being that we understand prayer dispensationally. Most believers make a bee-line to Israel’s program for their prayer instructions.

Israel’s prayer program:

I Kings 8:22-66 give clear information on Israel’s prayer program. Please read this chapter.

1. Conditional vs. 34 “\_\_\_\_\_ hear thou in heaven...” vs. 36 “\_\_\_\_\_ hear thou...” vs. 39 “\_\_\_\_\_ hear thou...” vs. 49 “\_\_\_\_\_ hear thou...” Ps. 66:18 “If I regard \_\_\_\_\_ in my \_\_\_\_\_, the \_\_\_\_\_ will \_\_\_\_\_ me.” Is. 1:15 “And when ye \_\_\_\_\_ forth your \_\_\_\_\_, I will \_\_\_\_\_ mine eyes from you: yea, when ye make many \_\_\_\_\_, I will not \_\_\_\_\_: your hands are full of blood.” How often do we hear “If you’re in sin your fellowship with God is broken and God will not hear you pray.” Is this true for the believer living in the age of grace? We will get to this answer a little later in our lesson.
2. Physical Posture – by this I mean they were to pray, vs. I Kings 8:30 “...when they shall \_\_\_\_\_ this \_\_\_\_\_...” vs. 33 “..and make supplication unto thee in \_\_\_\_\_:” vs. 38 “...and \_\_\_\_\_ forth his \_\_\_\_\_ toward the \_\_\_\_\_ this \_\_\_\_\_: vs. 44 “...and shall \_\_\_\_\_ unto the LORD toward the \_\_\_\_\_ which thou hast \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ that I have built for thy name.” II Chron. 6:13 “...and \_\_\_\_\_ down upon his \_\_\_\_\_ before all the congregation of Israel, and \_\_\_\_\_ forth his \_\_\_\_\_ toward \_\_\_\_\_.”
3. Scheduled – Dan. 6:10 “...and his windows being open in his chamber toward \_\_\_\_\_, he kneeled down upon his knees \_\_\_\_\_ times a \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_, and gave thanks before his God, as he did aforetime.” Dan. 6:13 “...but maketh his \_\_\_\_\_ times a \_\_\_\_\_.” Acts 3:1 “Now Peter and John went up together into the \_\_\_\_\_ at the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, being the \_\_\_\_\_ hour.” Acts 10:9 “...Peter went up upon the housetop to \_\_\_\_\_ about the \_\_\_\_\_ hour.”

Just from this brief study we have learned that Israel’s prayer program included conditions. They had to be right with God, facing Jerusalem, and praying at the right time. Most believers I know who claim this program, never pay attention to points 2 and 3. Of course, we see men prostrate, standing, sitting, etc. while praying. So even though there were instructions, they were not absolutes.

Do we read anything like this in Paul’s approximately 50 references to prayer?

First let us consider the matter of sin and broken fellowship and a deaf ear from heaven.

## Lesson 110 Continued

As believers in the Lord Jesus Christ, his death burial and resurrection, our old man has been crucified with Christ. We no longer have an identity before God "in Adam".

Rom. 6:6 "Knowing this, that our \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_..." We are now a new \_\_\_\_\_ according to II Cor. 5:17. This is a result of our  
now being identified as being \_\_\_\_\_ Christ (same verse). Believers, in the age of grace, have a position of being  
"in Christ".

All the accruing benefits of such a position are ours! Justified, forgiven, righteous, accepted, beloved, etc. In I Cor. 1:8, 9 Paul tells these saints who are carnal that they are sanctified "in Christ" vs. 2 established or confirmed unto the end vs. 8 blameless when Christ comes and in vs. 9 "God is \_\_\_\_\_, (they certainly weren't) by whom ye were \_\_\_\_\_ vs. 9 (summoned) unto the \_\_\_\_\_ of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord."

And to these carnal saints Paul says in II Cor. 1:11 "Ye also \_\_\_\_\_ together by \_\_\_\_\_ for us..."

There is no hint from Paul that God will not hear a believer when he prays, to the contrary, we find that the believer always has access to the Father.

Our prayer life is based on the merits of the Lord Jesus Christ, not on who we are in the flesh! Who God has made us in His Son is the basis upon which we come before God. It is our position "in Christ" that gives us \_\_\_\_\_ according to Eph. 2:18 "For through him we both have \_\_\_\_\_ by one \_\_\_\_\_ unto the \_\_\_\_\_."

Eph. 3:12 "In whom we have \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_ by the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_."

It was Christ's faithfulness that secured for us such a position. The only condition here is that of being "in Christ".

How could you or I ever be bold and confident in our access to God if it were conditioned on how our flesh was doing? When Paul instructs the believer in Eph. 6:18 "Praying \_\_\_\_\_" we can be sure that we're able to pray at any time knowing that God will and does hear us.

Secondly, is there a proper position in which we should pray?

We do know that on occasion Paul did kneel when he prayed. Acts 20:36 "And when he had thus spoke, he \_\_\_\_\_ down, and \_\_\_\_\_ with them." Acts 21:5 "...and we \_\_\_\_\_ down on the shore, and \_\_\_\_\_."

These scenes of Paul and his company kneeling with these precious saints certainly captures my heart as I picture this in my mind's eye. The love, longing and compassion that they had for one another is beautifully expressed. This kneeling did not originate from any necessity or instruction. It flowed from a humbleness of heart.

Even with Israel, God wasn't interested in the form if the heart did not reflect the activity!

## Lesson 110 Continued

Ps. 51:17-19 "The sacrifices of God are a \_\_\_\_\_, a broken and \_\_\_\_\_  
... vs. 19 \_\_\_\_\_ shalt thou be \_\_\_\_\_..."

We never see Paul facing Jerusalem when he prays but what about his hands raised toward heaven? I Tim. 2:8 "I will therefore that men \_\_\_\_\_ everywhere, \_\_\_\_\_ up holy \_\_\_\_\_; without wrath and doubting." Paul is stressing the sincerity of heart and life as he goes on in verses 9 and 10 to demonstrate. Job 16:17 "Not for any \_\_\_\_\_ in mine \_\_\_\_\_: also my \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_." There should be an outward life that matches our inward reality. An example of this is found in Acts 10:2 "A \_\_\_\_\_ man, and one that \_\_\_\_\_ God with all his house, which \_\_\_\_\_ much alms to the people, and \_\_\_\_\_ to God \_\_\_\_\_."

In the dispensation of grace there is no instruction as to the believer's physical position that I can see. Paul says in Eph. 3:14 "For this cause I \_\_\_\_\_ my \_\_\_\_\_ unto the \_\_\_\_\_ of our Lord Jesus Christ."

This is a voluntary position. Some say Paul did not literally bow his knee here but merely his heart. I think the verse speaks for itself. I know that there are churches where there are kneeling rails. We have no such command. Enjoy your liberty in grace! Sit, stand, walk, kneel, lie down, etc., the position is not the issue.

Gal. 5:1 "Stand fast in the \_\_\_\_\_ where with Christ hath made us \_\_\_\_\_, and be not \_\_\_\_\_ again with the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_."

Next time we will look at praying at scheduled times and the rest of Eph. 6:18.