

I Thessalonians

Class #136 – Sun AM 2/5/2006

Spiritual Advance by Columns (1 Thess 1:3) – A collective advance of believers in a local church.

- 1) **Metabolized Bible Doctrine** [PISTIS] producing [ERGON] - **Work** (believer comes to a recognition of spiritual gift function and puts that to work). All in the face of opposition from Satan and his task organization! And what is it that keeps you going?
- 2) **Love** [AGAPE] producing [KOPOS] – **Strenuous effort** to maintain that work in fulfilling the responsibilities of the Church Age Believer Priesthood for the benefit of the team that is advancing forward of the battle area. And that love is for all three members of the Godhead: God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. Of special importance is the personal love we have for Jesus Christ – a stage in the spiritual advance.
- 3) **Confident expectation** in the imminent return of Jesus Christ [ELPIS] producing [HUPOMONE] – **Steadfast endurance** to bear up under the greatest pressures in doing what God would have you do.

Review 1 Thess 5: 11-14 A series of commands that Paul gives the believer in order to maintain unity in an assembly of believers that is advancing spiritually.

1 Thess 5:11– 14 Interpretive translation

(11) Therefore keep on encouraging one another and keep on building up one another (HEIS-TON-HENA), just as y'all are doing.

(12) But we are requesting / beseeching y'all, brethren, that you appreciate (respect – honor - recognize) the ones (spiritual leadership of the local church) who are working hard among y'all, and the ones having charge over y'all in the Lord and the ones who are admonishing y'all,

(13) and that you highly regard them beyond measure in love because of their work. Maintain harmonious rapport with one another (in the spiritual advance).

(14) We are encouraging y'all, brothers (fellow members of God's Royal Family), keep on admonishing the unruly, keep on cheering up the discouraged ones, and keep on helping the weak, keep on being patient with everyone.

- 1) “**Keep on encouraging**”
- 2) “**Keep on building up**” - ‘**one the other**’ – Accomplished when the believer is functioning in his spiritual gift and fulfilling the responsibilities of the believer priesthood for the benefit of those he is advancing with spiritually for the benefit of the team as a whole.

Requirements to “keep on building up”:

- Self-motivation (a result of executing the unique spiritual life & God the Holy Spirit functioning in an unhindered capacity).
- Genuine humility.
- Authority orientation.
- Loyalty to the Lord & His Word.
- Malleability (free from personal agendas).

2 Tim 3:16-17 – The purpose of the Word of God – Interpretive translation

(16) All Scripture is God-breathed and is profitable for doctrine (teaching), for reproof (ELEGMOS), for correction (adjustments to your thinking and or you actions), for instruction in righteousness;

(17) so that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

- 3) “**Respect the spiritual leadership in the flock**”
- 4) “**Highly regard beyond measure**” – those in spiritual leadership (*by means of love*).
- 5) “**Maintain harmony**” – live in peace with one another (harmonious rapport).
- 6) “**Admonish [warn or instruct] the unruly**” – those in the flock who have fallen down on the job. Those who are creating issues conducive to disharmony. Those who are thinking more of themselves than those you are fighting with. You have a responsibility to admonish them – to give them a “swift kick in the pants.”
- 7) “**Encourage [cheer up] the fainthearted**” – someone short of breath in their soul, discouraged in the spiritual advance.

POD – Cheering up a discouraged Christian is always done by refocusing their attention on Jesus Christ and the promises in His infallible Word – Bible Doctrine.

- 8) “**Help [assist or care for someone] the weak** – a newer believer who does not have that dependence on the Lord yet.
- 9) “**Be patient [or patiently endure] with everyone.**”

1 Thess 5:15-20

- (15) See that no one repays another with evil for evil, but always seek after that which is good for one another and for all people.
- (16) Rejoice always;
- (17) pray without ceasing;
- (18) in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.
- (19) Do not quench the Spirit.
- (20) do not despise prophetic utterances.

Commands -

- 10) “**See to it**”; insure that no one repays another with evil for evil; no revenge motivation; no snapping back. (vs. 15)
- 11) “**Always strive to produce good**” for one another including those with whom you are advancing spiritually. (vs. 15)
- 12) “**Rejoice always.**” Happiness (+H). An influence and attitude produced by the Holy Spirit. We can only obey these commands by means of the filling of the Holy Spirit. (vs. 16)

KARPOS – “Fruit” – singular

Love - Joy - Peace - Patience – Kindness – Goodness –
Faithfulness - Gentleness – Self-control

Gal 5:22-23

(23) “...against such things there is no law.”

Eph 5:18

(18) **And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but (contrast!) be filled** (keep on being filled) **with the Spirit**, (note the participles mentioned in verses 19-21)...

- “speaking”
- “singing”
- “making melody”
- “giving thanks”
- “submitting” to authority

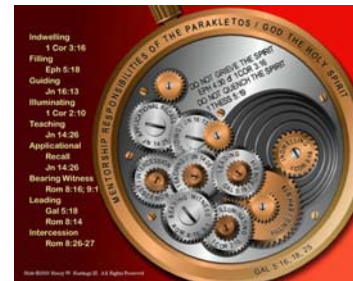
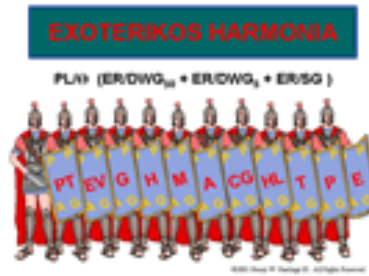
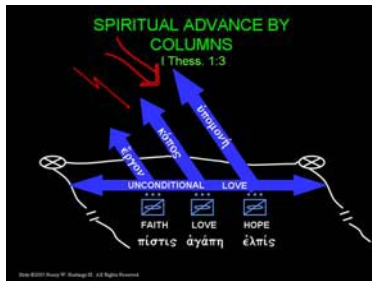
Results of “being filled”!

POD – God the Holy Spirit enables the believer to fulfill all the commands required to maintain unity with fellow believers through His filling ministry as the believer walks in dependence upon the Spirit in the spiritual advance.

- 13) **“Pray without ceasing”** – emphasis on you own volition. A reflection of your thinking. Thoughts formulated in your soul under the filling of the Holy Spirit. Tuned in to Carpe Occasio. (vs. 17)
- 14) **“In everything give thanks.”** Note: it is God’s will for you to give thanks, for good things that happen and bad. This attitude can only be produced under the filling of the Holy Spirit. (vs. 18)
- 15) **“Do not quench the Spirit”** – [SBENNUMI] - to stifle or suppress. Do not stifle or suppress that which the Holy Spirit has been sent to do in your life. (vs. 19)
- 16) **“Do not despise prophetic utterances”** (vs. 20).

Heb 10:25 “Do not forsake the assembling of yourselves together”
Gal 5:16, 25 “...walk by means of the Spirit...”

Class slides



All Scriptures quoted are from New American Standard unless otherwise noted.