

C&C: Whatsoever things were Written aforetime were Written for our Learning

Connections and Comparisons is an ongoing weekly series that deals with many scriptures in the Bible, some of which are not commonly addressed. The purpose of this series is to examine the scriptures at hand comparing what is said and looking at the connections within.

Romans 15:1-4

1 We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves.

2 Let every one of us please his neighbour for his good to edification.

3 For even Christ pleased not himself; but, as it is written, The reproaches of them that reproached thee fell on me.

4 For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.

There is a reason that we should be learning what was written before the New Testament. So that you better understand the New Testament when they refer to the Old Testament and “that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.”

Hope for what? To understand the compassion, mercy, favor, and grace of our God. Also to learn of his justice, judgement, and equity. To learn from past mistakes that were made and to also learn how to deal with hard times that we might have hope through patience and comfort of the scriptures. Learning by their examples as it was “**written for our learning**”.

2 Peter 1:20-21

20 Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.

21 For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

2 Timothy 3:16-17

16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

17 That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

Job in is his sufferings cried out!!

Job 19:23-27

23 Oh that my words were now written! oh that they were printed in a book!

24 That they were graven with an iron pen and lead in the rock for ever!

25 For I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth:

26 And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God:

27 Whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another; though my reins be consumed within me.

Praise God who already knew that they would be “**printed in a book!**” Job prophecies to us of being redeemed in the catching away of the saints or the rapture understanding by the Holy Ghost that even though his body would return to the dust of the Earth and the worms would consume it, “**yet in my flesh shall I see God: Whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another; though my reins be consumed within me.**”

We also learned from Job that of **patience and suffering**. From these incredible sufferings of losing his family of whom he greatly loved and that of losing all of his worldly possessions at once. From a rich man to a poor man. Yet Job dealt wisely! “**Then Job arose, and rent his mantle, and shaved his head, and fell down upon the ground, and worshipped, And said, Naked came I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return thither: the LORD gave, and the LORD hath taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD. In all this Job sinned not, nor charged God foolishly.**” (Job 1:20-22) And Yet You Curse My NAME Over EVERYTHING!!! His friends that came only added affliction upon affliction to Job, of whom God said, “**And the LORD said unto Satan, Hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil?**” (Job 1:8)

James 5:10-11

10 Take, my brethren, the prophets, who have spoken in the name of the Lord, for an example of suffering affliction, and of patience.

11 Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy.

Proverbs 1:1-7

1 The proverbs of Solomon the son of David, king of Israel;

2 To know wisdom and instruction; to perceive the words of understanding;

3 To receive the instruction of wisdom, justice, and judgment, and equity;

4 To give subtilty to the simple, to the young man knowledge and discretion.

5 A wise man will hear, and will increase learning; and a man of understanding shall attain unto wise counsels:

6 To understand a proverb, and the interpretation; the words of the wise, and their dark sayings.

7 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction.

The proverbs of Solomon were to teach you “**To know wisdom and instruction; to perceive the words of understanding; To receive the instruction of wisdom, justice, and judgment, and equity; To give subtilty to the simple, to the young man knowledge and discretion.**” Doesn't that make you excited!! Doesn't that bring joy to your heart? Is there an Amen out there!!

But fools despise wisdom and instruction. My Lord have mercy on you if you are refusing to learn the words of the wise men of God who spoke as the Holy Ghost moved upon them. God have mercy on your soul if you are refusing to increase learning the words of wisdom that was given by God to Solomon and to the rest of the word of God the Bible!

Proverbs 1:22-26

22 How long, ye simple ones, will ye love simplicity? and the scorers delight in their scorning, and fools hate knowledge?

23 Turn you at my reproof: behold, I will pour out my spirit unto you, I will make known my words unto you.

24 Because I have called, and ye refused; **I have stretched out my hand, and no man regarded;**

25 But ye have set at nought all my counsel, and would none of my reproof:

26 I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your fear cometh;

Oh, but if you would turn an the reproof of wisdom and lift up your voice for wisdom and understanding! Then would you find out “the instruction of wisdom, justice, and judgment, and equity”.

Ecclesiastes 12:13

13 Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.

What are you wasting your time on? What are you spending your time on? Yes, again. What are you wasting your time on? You only have one life to live and you are not promised your next breath and if you haven't been born again the way we were instructed to by the Apostle's then you will be forever damned, in the Lake of fire burning with brimstone. Then what good was all the time you wasted doing whatever you are spending your time on? **The plan of salvation for all of mankind is** “Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. **For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.**” (Acts 2:38-39) **If you haven't repented and got baptized in Jesus name for the remission of your sins then you will die in your sins and perish in the Lake of Fire for all eternity! It is a promise that if you do repent and get baptized in Jesus name for the remission of your sins that you will receive the Holy Ghost.** However, if you do not keep your repentance from sinning then God is not obligated to fulfill giving you his Spirit. However, if you do keep yourself and seek God for the Holy Ghost he promised to fill you with his Spirit and when he does you and anyone around you will know it because when you are filled with the Holy Spirit of God you will speak with other tongues as the Spirit gives the utterance.

Acts 2:1-4

1 And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, **they were all with one accord in one place.**

2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and **it filled all the house where they were sitting.**

3 And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.

4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Whatsoever things were Written aforetime were Written for our Learning. Even so this is the fulfilment of the prophecies concerning this day that Jesus was going to pour out of His Spirit upon all flesh.

Acts 2:32-33

32 This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses.

33 Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, he hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear.

As it was written aforetime!

Isaiah 28:11-12

11 For with stammering lips and another tongue will he speak to this people.

12 **To whom he said, This is the rest wherewith ye may cause the weary to rest; and this is the refreshing: yet they would not hear.**

Joel 2:28-29

28 And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions:

29 **And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit.**

The Word of God doesn't change! Why are you not making time to go to read and to study the only thing in this life that will show you the way to obtain eternal life and show you the way of how you are to live your life?

Matthew 11:28-30

28 **Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.**

29 **Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.**

30 **For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.**

This rest is the Holy Ghost that you will receive if you apply what I shared with you concerning the plan of salvation. Jesus is that rest “wherewith ye may cause the weary to rest; and this is the refreshing: yet they would not hear.” Jesus said to “learn of me”. Are you learning of Jesus Christ and applying what he taught? Do you know how many references Jesus made concerning the things which were Written aforetime for our Learning?

Matthew 7:12

12 **Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets.**

Jesus just spoke of the entire Old Testament! The law and the prophets.

Luke 24:44-46

44 And he said unto them, **These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me.**

45 **Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures,**

46 And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day:

Jesus here refers back to prophecies concerning himself saying “which written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms”. Do any of these prophecies come to your mind?

2 Timothy 2:15

15 Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

How can you study to show yourself approved unto God, a workman that needs not to be ashamed, correctly interpreting the word of truth if you do not know what the word of truth is throughout the Bible. **How can you know the doctrines in the Bible if you don't know the scriptures that were Written aforetime for our Learning?** As well as the New Testament that continuously refers back to the Old Testament because it was **Written aforetime for our Learning.**

The book of Romans, Galatians, Hebrews, Revelation just to name a few books that have continual references to the Old Testament. Then the other epistles that also quite often point you back to the Old Testament for your understanding of what is going on. It may only be a few lines at a time of scriptural references but they are part of a much larger doctrinal teaching on that subject. **And if you don't know those scriptures then you will not correctly interpret the word of truth.** Oh, that's just for the Pastors, preachers, and such. **How do you know if what they are teaching you is truth or not? You are commanded to be able to answer every man of the hope that lies within you? Do you even know what that hope is?**

Acts 17:10-12

10 And the brethren immediately sent away Paul and Silas by night unto Berea: who coming thither went into the synagogue of the Jews.

11 These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.

12 Therefore many of them believed; also of honourable women which were Greeks, and of men, not a few.

Yes, not just the priests, elders, and scribes were studying the Bible but as they were commanded to learn the scriptures “they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.”

As it was written aforetime!

Deuteronomy 11:18-21

18 Therefore shall ye lay up these my words in your heart and in your soul, and bind them for a sign upon your hand, that they may be as frontlets between your eyes.

19 And ye shall teach them your children, speaking of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.

20 And thou shalt write them upon the door posts of thine house, and upon thy gates:

21 That your days **may be multiplied**, and **the days of your children**, in the land which the LORD swore unto your fathers to give them, as the days of heaven upon the earth.

Even so today!

1 Peter 3:15

15 But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:

The Apostle Peter, who knew the Apostle Paul was writing scripture, instructed the people that many people will wrestle with what the Apostle Paul is speaking because of the wisdom God had given to the Apostle Paul and because they wouldn't learn what the Apostle Paul was referring to and correctly interpret it because he was referring back to things that were Written aforetime for our Learning. The Apostle Peter speaking of the Day of the Lord which is all through the Old Testament reveals some information about that day just before admonishing the people that the Apostle Paul was continually speaking of them in his epistles.

2 Peter 3:10-18

10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.

11 Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness,

12 Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?

13 Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.

14 Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless.

15 And account that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you;

16 As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction.

17 Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own stedfastness.

18 But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.

The Apostle Peter said they were “unlearned and unstable” and not only did they wrestle with the scriptures concerning the day of the Lord but also “the other scriptures, unto their own destruction.” **Warning** “beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own stedfastness. But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.”